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KITH AND KIN OF OUR PRESIDENT

— Lyndon Baines Johnson —

By

Edythe Rucker Whitley
Genealogist-Historian

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FOREWORD

This book is published in response to a demand created as the result of the publicity attending the presentation to Mrs. Lyndon Baines Johnson, by the author, at the White House on Saturday, April 24, 1964, of a compilation of the Genealogy and History of many of the prominent lines of ancestry of President Johnson, for their two daughters, Lynda and Luci.

Several additions of both historical and genealogical significance have been added to the above mentioned work and appear in this publication.

Edythe Johns Rucker Whitley

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INTRODUCTION

There has long been a debate among the students of human nature as to whether inheritance or environment plays the greater part in determining the character and general nature of a man. I shall not attempt to settle that ancient argument, but rather to add to it a few more specific questions.

Just what part does his inheritance play in the making of the man who is President of these United States today ? To what extent did the pioneer environment of his ancestors in Tennessee play in the formation of his character ? And, if inheritance does play a major part in influencing character, just how much is Lyndon Baines Johnson indebted to his forebears for the man he is today ? What particular family lines are most predominant ? Which "side of the house", as the old saying goes, does he "take after" most ?

Of course I shall not attempt to settle any of these questions. My purpose, gentle reader, is to place before you a well documented record of some of the major lines of his ancestral inheritance, and let you make up your mind for yourself.

Lyndon Baines Johnson, the restless, imponderable man who is now President of the United States, is a strangely contradictory personality. While he has his ardent admirers, he also has many who are quite as enthusiastically opposed to him.

For instance, one of his most adverse critics describes him as "not so much the product of Texas as of the strangely deranged times that have set the stage for his ambitious desires, his vanity and egotism, his vindictive nature and his evil genius ... " (1)

On the other hand, he has devoted followers who are impressed by his natural friendliness, his liking for gay social life, and his obsession to go down in history for the creation and implementation of his GREAT SOCIETY.

Genealogy, the oldest science known to man, began in Genesis, the first book of the Holy Bible. It starts with the "begets", the "creation", the "off-spring", the "progeny", the "birth", and "descent" of every living thing including the human being.

Each of us is no more nor no less than the ingredients, the elements, the component parts, germinated by our ances-

tors. Every human being possesses at least two distinct personalities, one destructive and one constructive.

Education is generally misunderstood to mean instruction or memorizing of rules. It really means development from within, of the human mind, through the unfolding and use of those inherited traits generated by our forefathers.

It is interesting to speculate on just what forces of heredity, environment and education have produced this complex personality which today heads the most powerful nation in the world.

Notes: (1) A Texan Looks at Lyndon, by J. Everetts Haley, published Palo Duro Press, Canyon, Texas, 1964

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THE JOHNSON LINE OF DESCENT

In order to write the interesting history of President Johnson through the families not given in his mother's book, The Johnsons -- Descendants of John Johnson, A Revolutionary Soldier of Georgia: A Genealogical History, by Rebekah Baines Johnson, published 1956, it is necessary to use certain portions of information contained therein. I shall make no effort to re-trace the Johnson lineage.

The Johnson story begins with John Johnson in Oglethrope County, Georgia, about the close of the Revolutionary War. Wilkes County was the first county created in the state of Georgia. In 1793 Oglethrope County was created from a part of Wilkes. Elbert County had also taken a portion of the territory which had been Wilkes County about the same time or possibly a little earlier.

The headrights from April 1, 1794 to 1800, published, being the list taken by John Lumpkin, shows: Thomas Duke & John King, Esquires, --- John Johnson for himself and 4 in family.

In Wilkes County one William Eley sold land as early as 1786 to Ornon Whatley. There was a Jesse Eley who married a Nancy Shackleford in Oglethrope County, about 1797. I wonder if the name Ealy as spelled in the family of John Johnson is not the same family with a different spelling ?

John Johnson was living in Oglethrope County, Georgia, in 1795. (1) The records of Oglethrope, Henry and Greene Counties, Georgia, show John's residence in these counties until his death, January 14, 1828. He was of English descent, but his residence before 1795 is unknown.

About 1787 he married Ann Ealy (mother of his eight children) who died January 1815, after twenty-eight years of marriage. He married for the second time in Greene County, May 24, 1823, Joicy Bowdrie Fears, widow of William Fears. She survived him and lived to an advanced age.

I shall not go into the Johnson family history back of John Johnson. Hugh B. Johnson, Jr., wrote an article on the ancestors of President Johnson, tracing the Johnson side of the family back several generations before the Revolution.(2)

John Johnson participated in the Georgia land Lottery of 1827, and was awarded 202½ acres of land in Lee County. His service in the Revolutionary War is recorded in the Survey Book and Grant Book in the Georgia State House. His will is also recorded in Oglethrope County.

He owned land in 1795 in Captain Edmonson's District; ninety acres on Little River joined Joel Hurt; five hundred acres in Oglethrope County, Pleasant Hill District; two hundred and fifty acres in Franklin County; one white poll and six slaves. In 1796 he owned in Captain Brook's District, six hundred and thirty acres in Oglethrope; four hundred acres in Jackson County. (3)

He also owned land in Greene County, Georgia, according to the following deeds:

"John Johnson of Oglethrope County to Alex. Johnson of Greene County, Georgia, Dated November 21, 1801" .... "Conveys, for consideration of $100.00, a certain tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in said State and County of Greene, on Sandy Creek, as follows: On a horn beam on the south side of said Sandy Creek and supposed to run northeasterly to a station white oak and from thence a direct course to a dogwood corner on Robert Sorrell's Spring Branch, and from thence up said Spring Branch, to said Alex. Johnson's north line of the tract of land whereon said Alexander now lives, and from thence easterly along said line until it strikes said Sandy Creek and from thence up said creek to the beginning horn beam, containing fifty acres be the same more or less. Witnesses: William Phillips and W. H. N. Hammett."

Also:

"from Joshua Wilson to John Johnson, of Oglethrope County, Georgia, conveying one hundred acres, more or less, beginning on the south side of Sandy Creek at the mouth of Robert Sorrel's Spring Branch, and from thence down said creek to Alex. Johnson's line and from thence along said Alex. Johnson's line to said Sorrel's Spring Branch and from thence down said creek to Alex. Johnson's line. Consideration $400.00. Deed witnessed by James McDonald and Alex. Johnson, dated 19 November 1801, and recorded September 2, 1805." (4)

Sandy Creek is in the very northwest corner of Greene County at the Oglethrope County line.

John Johnson was recalled by his sons as a God-fearing and courageous man who put right above might. He reared his children to respect the rights of others, to speak no evil of others, and to shoulder responsibility. It is believed that he was a member of the Baptist Church. His entries in the Bible, and his papers, show a reverence for God. His record in the Revolutionary War reveals his patriotism and devotion to duty. The six children whom he reared to useful maturity held him in great affection and high respect all their days and passed on to their children his principles and precepts.

John Johnson was born March 28, 1764; died in Oglethrope County, Georgia, January 14, 1828. He married first about 1787, Ann Ealy, born September 14, 1763; died Oglethrope County, January 1815. He married secondly in Greene County, Georgia, May 24, 1863, Joicy (Bowdrie) Fears. He was a Revolutionary soldier and a Georgia planter.

Our story of the Johnson family will only follow one direct line -- that of President Lyndon Baines Johnson. We shall, however, record here the children of John Johnson and his wife, Ann Ealy.

Samuel Johnson, born November 16, 1788, son of John and Ann (Ealy) Johnson, died at Pleasant Grove, Henry County, Georgia, July 1835. He married in Oglethrope County, July 27, 1815, Susannah Edwards. Samuel Johnson was a merchant, a planter and a Baptist leader. Of his large family three are Harriet Jane, James H. and Ann Ealy Johnson.

John Johnson, Junior, son of John and Ann (Ealy) Johnson, was born August 13, 1790, and died January 13, 1819. He married in Henry County, Georgia, September 29, 1815, Nancy Williams. Their children were Nancy, Polly and William Johnson.

Elizabeth Johnson, daughter of John and Ann (Ealy) Johnson, was born October 10, 1792 and died June 25, 1794.

Jesse Johnson, the next child born to John and Ann (Ealy) Johnson, was born in Oglethrope County, Georgia, April 28, 1795, and died at Lockhart, Caldwell County, Texas, May 15, 1856. He served as Sheriff of Henry County, Georgia, 1824-1828. We shall have more about this family later.

Mary (Polly) Johnson, daughter of John and Ann (Ealy) Johnson, was born in Georgia, August 7, 1797, and died at Colorado Camp Post, Coleman County, Texas, January 9, 1886. She married in Oglethrope County, Georgia, July 4, 1820, Pleasant L. Barnett, born 1795 died 1863.

Richard Johnson, son of John and Ann (Ealy) Johnson, was born in Georgia, August 25, 1800, and died in 1813.

Ann Johnson was born in Georgia, November 22, 1802. She was daughter of John Johnson by his wife Ann Ealy. Ann Johnson, named after her mother, married in Henry County, Georgia, May 20, 1828, John C. Campbell.

Thomas Jefferson Johnson, son of John and Ann (Ealy) Johnson, was born in Henry County, Georgia, April 10, 1808, and died in Bell County, Texas, November 1895. He married first in Georgia about 1828, Elizabeth Johnson, who was born in that State, July 7, 1811, and died in the same

State, December 22, 1830. Thomas J. Johnson married secondly in Georgia, about 1836, Mary Ann Echols, born in that State, April 16, 1813 and died in Bell County, Texas, February 13, 1886. He operated a grist mill in Georgia and engaged in farming and carpentering both in Georgia and Texas.

Jesse Johnson, who was born April 28, 1795 and died in Caldwell County, Texas, May 15, 1856, married in Greene County, Georgia, November 14, 1817 Lucy Webb Barnett born in the "cracker" State, January 14, 1798, died at Lockhart, Caldwell County, Texas, March 13, 1857.

In 1824, and again in 1828, Jesse Johnson served as Sheriff of Henry County, Georgia. He engaged in farming in Oglethrope, Henry and Greene Counties in Georgia, save for a brief residence in 1838 in the State of Alabama. (5)

There was a Jesse Johnson in the 1840 census of Barbour County, Alabama. This possibly is the same person as the subject of our history. This Jesse Johnson took title to land in an area that until shortly before had been Creek Indian Territory. This was in 1838. The land was sold by Jesse Johnson on May 8, 1843 to a B. Warren. The sale of the tract in Township 11, Range 26, Section 6, came only three years before the family moved to Texas. The land lies slightly to the west of Clayton. (6)

In 1846 Jesse Johnson and his wife moved to Texas, bringing with them eight of their ten children, and several slaves.

The second son of Jesse and Lucy was named Nathan Barnett Johnson; born in 1820, became a physician. The eldest daughter, Ava Ann (Johnson) Adams, born in 1823, remained in Henry County, Georgia.

The Johnsons located at Lockhart, Caldwell County, Texas and purchased a home.

The eldest son, John Leonard Johnson, a physician, with his wife and children located at Gonzales, Texas, Gonzales County. The other three sons, Andrew Jackson, Thomas Jesse (sometimes referred to as Jesse Thomas) and Samuel Ealy Johnson, who was the youngest, born in 1838, were all engaged in the cattle business.

The daughters, Amanda, Betty and Lucy, all found husbands in widely separated Texas homes in due time.

In 1854 Jesse Johnson's health began to fail, and on May 15, 1856, he passed away at his home in Lockhart. His estate was administered by his son, Andrew Jackson Johnson.

Jesse Johnson, so the family recollections tell us, was a man of great charity and kindness, and took into his home the five children of his eldest son when their mother died, and for some time reared these children with his own. He was energetic, public spirited, interested in politics and government, devoted to his family, his town and his church. He was a consistent member of the Baptist Church.

Lucy Webb Barnett, wife of Jesse Johnson, was the daughter of Leonard and Nancy (Statham) Barnett, and was born in Georgia, probably in Elbert County, on January 14, 1798. It is believed that she had several brothers and sisters.

She emigrated with her parents to Greene County, Georgia, and there on November 14, 1817, married Jesse Johnson. They resided in Greene, Henry and Oglethrope Counties, Georgia, for nearly thirty years. In 1846 they removed to Texas, and located at Lockhart, Caldwell County.

On March 13, 1857, Lucy Webb Barnett Johnson passed away at the age of fifty-nine. Only one of her ten children had preceded her in death. She was laid to rest by the side of her husband, Jesse, who had died in May of the preceding year.

Lucy Webb Barnett was named for her paternal grandmother, Lucy Webb, from whom she inherited many of the great virtues of that valiant pioneer woman who kept the home fires burning while her husband, Nathan Barnett, and four of their sons, fought in the Revolutionary War.

Lucy Barnett Johnson, according to Mrs. Rebekah B. Johnson, passed on to her descendants, many of whom proudly bear her name, the courage, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty which characterized her. Rearing ten children and several grandchildren in those days of few conveniences and comforts was indeed a task to test the abilities of a brave woman. On the long overland trip from Georgia to Texas by wagon train, her cheerfulness and patience, her sons long afterward said, encouraged and inspired the worn travelers.

The oldest son of Jesse and Lucy Webb (Barnett) Johnson was John Leonard Johnson, born October 28, 1818 and died November 5, 1890. He was a physician and Baptist minister. His first wife was Elizabeth Malone, born December 29, 1836. His second wife was Mary Carroll. From census records we learn this family resided in Alabama in 1838 and in 1845. There was a son born to Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Johnson, in Alabama, on May 24, 1838; and another son, James Polk Johnson, also born in that State August 24, 1845.

Nathan Barnett Johnson, son of Jesse and Lucy Webb (Barnett) Johnson, was born August 10, 1820, and died before 1856. His wife's given name was Elizabeth. The 1840 census

shows his age 20 years.

Ava Ann Johnson, daughter of Jesse and Lucy Webb (Barnett) Johnson, appears in the 1840 census as age 17 years. She married James Adams of Henry County, Georgia. They had children, one of whom was Jesse John Thomas Adams.

Andrew Jackson Johnson, born January 27, 1825, the son of Jesse and Lucy Webb (Barnett) Johnson, died December 2, 1891. He married first Mattie Tuttle and his second wife was Bettie Morris.

Amanda Melcina Johnson, daughter of Jesse Johnson by his wife Lucy Webb Barnett, was born March 7, 1827. She married Manly Kelly.

Frances Washington Johnson, daughter of Jesse and Lucy Johnson, was born May 5, 1829 and married Leonard Barnett. Their daughter, Lucy, married Miles Moore.

The seventh child of Jesse and Lucy (Barnett) Johnson was Mary Ann Elizabeth Johnson, born January 29, 1831; died February 11, 1897; married Thomas Hunt.

Lucy Ann Johnson, the eighth child of Jesse and Lucy (Barnett) Johnson, was born November 12, 1838 and died February 25, 1915; married a Mr. McCarthy.

Jesse Thomas (sometimes called Thomas Jesse) Johnson, the ninth child of Jesse and Lucy Webb (Barnett) Johnson, died March 12, 1877. (7)

Samuel Ealy, often called Sam Ealy, Johnson is stated by Mrs. Rebekah Baines Johnson to have been born in Alabama. There seems to have been considerable difficulty in tracing exactly where Samuel Ealy Johnson, Senior, was born because of the fact that his father, Jesse Johnson, moved his family to Alabama for only a short time in 1838. (8)

Young Sam was orphaned at the age of 18 years; with his brother Tom (Jesse Thomas) for whom he held great admiration and close attachment until Tom's death in 1877, became deeply interested and actively engaged in the cattle business. In 1859 the brothers were buying cattle and pasturing them at Fredericksburg, Texas, before driving them on to Kansas. They were mentioned in Trail Drivers of Texas as being the largest individual trail drivers operating in 1870 in Blanco, Gillespie, Llano, Barnet, Hays, Comal and Kendall Counties, with headquarters, pens and branding stalls at the mouth of Williamson's Creek in Blanco County, and headquarters at Johnson's Ranch on the Pedernales River at Johnson City, the county seat site of Blanco County. They drove cattle to Kansas and Montana in 1870, 1871, 1872 and 1873.

In the late '50's, the Johnson brothers established headquarters at Johnson City where they built a log cabin with portholes, and a rock barn, the first settlement of that section, later to become a landmark of Texas. (9)

Mrs. Rebekah Baines Johnson writes in her book: "On September 18, 1861, Sam E. Johnson enlisted at Lockhart, Texas, in Company B, de Bray's Regiment, C. S. A., and served through the Civil War. He was at the Battle of Galveston and had his horse killed under him at Pleasant Hill in 1862. He was a man of high physical courage and strong nerve and carried a wounded companion on his back from the battlefield, with great danger to himself; held wounded soldiers during amputations; and did many other acts of bravery requiring strong physical control and love for his fellow-soldiers."

She continues: "Returning to Lockhart and Johnson City after the War, he resumed cattle buying and trail driving to Abilene, Kansas, and other market points. In Lockhart, December 11, 1867, he married Miss Eliza Bunton, daughter of Lieutenant Robert Desha Bunton and his wife Jane McIntosh. The young couple set up housekeeping in the log cabin at Johnson City, where Sam and Tom had 'batched' before the War, the headquarters for their cattle drives. Indians were active in this section during this period. On August 15, 1869, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Felps, near Cypress Creek, Blanco County, were killed and scalped by Indians. The countryside was aroused, and a few days later ten young men of this section met a band of Indians, and engaged in the battle of Deer Creek, in which the Indians were routed. Alexander and George Roberts and Joe Bird were wounded and carried to the Johnson Ranch for attention.

"Shortly after this, Sam and Eliza Johnson moved to Caldwell County and later to Hays County, where they resided until about 1889 when they returned to the 'mountains', settling on the Pedernales River about 12 miles from Johnson City. All but the eldest of their nine children were born at Buda, Hays County, and attended school there. Several became teachers and taught in Blanco and nearby counties.

"Sam Johnson was reared a Baptist, joined the Christian Church in early manhood, but in his later years affiliated with the Christadelphians. He was a consistent and devout member of this church until his death, from pneumonia, at Stonewall, Texas, on February 25th, 1915.

" .... A man of strong courage, deep convictions, and a calm philosophy which allowed no worry, he lived serenely and quietly at this pleasant country home on the bank of the Pedernales from 1888 to 1915, almost thirty years. Prior to that, he led a very active, energetic, often haz-

ardous existence. He was a tall, lithe, well-built rangy man, six feet in height, with dark wavy hair and blue eyes. His snowy beard and thick mane of white hair in his last years gave him a patriarchal appearance." (10)

Mr. T. U. Taylor wrote: "There was a Johnson family who lived near the present town of Johnson City, and whose frontier home is still standing. Tom Johnson and his younger brother, Samuel Ealy Johnson, born in Georgia in 1838, settled in the Pedernales valley and bought land in Blanco County before the Civil War. Here they built a log cabin and lived for several years while driving cattle to Kansas, Montana, and Wyoming. It was the first settlement at the site of Johnson City, and was known as Johnson's Ranch. Tom and Sam Johnson had associated with them three nephews, Jesse, John and James Johnson. The five Johnsons had a rather loose partnership, one of the articles of which was to the effect that if one member of the firm should marry, he should check out of the firm, take his share, and then go it alone. One of the nephews, James Johnson, drew the lot of land east of the creek in Johnson City, and when the town was laid off, it was on James Johnson's land and thus we have Johnson City. Mrs. O. Y. Fawcett, a daughter of James Johnson, is living in Johnson City 'today' and carrying on the traditions of the Johnson family." (11)

The house is still standing, with its rock barn and portholes for defense against the Indians, and is one of the historical landmarks of Texas. To this log house, in 1867, Samuel Ealy Johnson brought his bride, Eliza Bunton.

It is at this point, in the history being prepared, that we find our greatest interest. Had Mrs. Rebekah Baines Johnson traced the lineage of Eliza Bunton in detail this book would not have written.

Mrs. Johnson does give a sketch of Eliza Bunton which is quoted here in full as it is important to our history. "Eliza Bunton, the fourth child of Robert Holmes and Priscilla Jane (McIntosh) Bunton, was born near Russellville, Logan County, Kentucky, June 24, 1849. About ten years later she came with her parents to Lockhart, Caldwell County, Texas, where she resided until her marriage there, December 11, 1867, to Sam Ealy Johnson.

"Her honeymoon and earliest years of married life were spent at her husband's ranch, where Johnson City now stands. Later, after a brief residence in Caldwell County, she and her husband moved to Buda, Hays County, Texas, where they resided until 1889, when they returned to the hill country, settling near Stonewall, Gillespie County, Texas, on a farm on the Pedernales River. In 1870, the Sam Johnsons and their baby daughter, Mary, moved to Buda where their nine children were reared and attended school.

"These were prosperous days, but very busy ones. With six little girls to keep in starched pinafores and three boys in seemly attire, with all her household and social duties, Eliza had little time for rest. She was glad to move to the mountains where the tempo of life was slower. The children, too, were growing older. Mary, the eldest, had married Ed Walling, and remained on the prairie. The others began to leave the home, to teach, to marry, to make lives of their own.

"One February morning in 1912, Eliza sat sewing a button on her husband's shirt; she gave a cry and fell from her chair. She had suffered a stroke, from which she never fully recovered. Death came to her at the farm home January 30, 1917. She was laid to rest by her husband's side in the family graveyard near the home.

"Eliza Bunton was tall, with patrician bearing, high-bred features, raven hair, piercing black eyes, and magnolia-white skin. Reserved and modest, she hated flattery and insincerity and had no personal vanity.

"Of a serious, thoughtful nature and a selflessness of purpose, she spent her life-span of nearly sixty-eight years in devoted service to her family. 'Charity begins at Home', she often quoted, and was ever quick to respond to the need of any of her children.

"From the depths of the big zinc trunk which held her treasures and her meeting clothes, she would bring out an old purse, holding the egg-and-butter money carefully saved for the purchase of a new black silk dress, and count out the exact amount needed by the child temporarily financially embarrassed. Sometimes the purse was left empty, but she eagerly assured the recipient of the loan of her happiness to be of service and her own lack of present need. She had no pride of earthly possessions and all references to the handsome clothes and the elegant furniture of more prosperous days were casual, never complaining nor regretful. It is said that when reverses came, she sold her silver-mounted carriage and matched span of horses, a gift from 'Brother Tom', her husband's favorite brother, and made a payment on the place in the hill country that was to become the family home.

"She honored the good and the great and was proud of the part her people had in the upbuilding of our nation. With quiet dignity and modest pride, she admonished her children to be worthy of their glorious heritage of courage and unselfish patriotism as exemplified in the life of her illustrious uncle, John W. Bunton, and many others of their ancestry.

"She loved her household duties; no one else could bake

home-made bread with such appetizing aroma and tastiness, or churn quite such golden butter. She read her Bible every day and followed its teachings as she interpreted them. Her heart belonged to her God and her family." (12)

Mr. T. U. Taylor wrote: "Among the many leading pioneer women of Blanco County are included the following - Mrs. Joseph Bird, Mrs. Tom Felps, Mrs. Samuel Johnson (Eliza Bunton)"....

"Eliza Bunton, a daughter of Robert Desha Bunton, a niece of John Wheeler Bunton, signer of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of Texas and a member of the first congress and a hero of San Jacinto. Eliza Bunton was gently reared but she took to the frontier life like the heroine she was, and became a member of that hall of fame that should be erected to the heroines of the highlands of Southwest Texas. She often saw horses dash into the pens near the house with arrows sticking in their flanks. She saw horses and cattle stolen from these pens, and, to this day of the year of 1940, a visitor can see the place where she crept under the floor to hide during the raids of the Red Warriors. During the memorable Deer Creek fight about three miles from Johnson City, two men were wounded and taken to the home of Samuel Ealy Johnson and were cared for and nursed by his heroine wife, Eliza Bunton Johnson." (13)

"Like all pioneer women she baked her bread on the old baker, or rather, Texas skillet that had a top to it and on the old fireplace. She had her old ash hopper, saved her lye and grease and in the spring had soft soap that soon became hard under the skilled manipulation of frontier women.

"Mrs. Eliza Bunton Johnson was a beautiful young woman with piercing black eyes, coal black hair, queenly in her carriage, a woman of great refinement and strong family pride. She loved to talk of her cousins, Governor Joseph Desha of Kentucky, John W. Breckenridge, Miss Mary Desha, co-founder of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and her brother, Joe Bunton, who, with his lifelong friend, Governor Joseph B. Sayers, fought with the immortal Texas Rangers, of which George W. Littlefield was an honored member. Samuel Ealy Johnson was a member of Debrey's Regiment and fought throughout the Civil War. Samuel Ealy Johnson and his wife, Eliza Bunton Johnson had nine children." (14)

More will be said of Eliza Bunton Johnson in connection with the Bunton family.

Mary Johnson, the daughter of Samuel Ealy Johnson and wife Eliza C. Bunton Johnson, was born in Hays County, Texas, October 1, 1868; died El Paso, Texas, April 18, 1909. She was a music teacher. She married Ed Walling in 1888.

The second child of Samuel Ealy and Eliza C. Bunton Johnson, was Frank (Frances) Barnett Johnson, born at Buda, Hays County, Texas, August 1, 1870; married in Johnson City, Texas, 1892, Clarence W. Martin, State Representative and District Judge, who died at Fredericksburg, Texas, August 30, 1936. She resided at Johnson City, Texas. To this union only one child, Thomas Johnson Martin, born at Kerrville, Kerr County, Texas, March 10, 1894; died Fredericksburg, Texas, September 21, 1948. He was a lawyer, news columnist and State Representative. He married at Fredericksburg as his first wife, March 10, 1915, Olga Priess. They divorced in 1928. He married secondly at Brownwood, Texas, April 28, 1929, Lela Black. By the first marriage there was a son, Clarence W. Martin II, born at Fredericksburg, April 1, 1916 who married in Los Angeles, California, in 1944, Dorothy Thomas.

The third child of Samuel Ealy Johnson and wife Eliza C. Bunton, was Ave Johnson, born at Buda, Texas, October 18, 1872. She died at Blanco, Texas, March 11, 1955. She was a teacher. She married at Stonewall, Texas, August 19, 1906, John Harvey Bright, also a teacher. They were parents of three children -- Mary Eliza Bright, John Harvey Bright, Jr., and Dorothy Bright.

Lucie Johnson, born at Buda, Texas, July 1, 1875, was the next child born to the union of Samuel Ealy Johnson and Eliza C. Bunton. She died August 8, 1950. She married at Stonewall, Texas, June 1909, James Sterling Price, born about 1874, died about 1948.

The fifth child of Mr. & Mrs. Samuel E. Johnson was Sam Ealy Johnson, Jr., born at Buda, Hays County, Texas, October 11, 1877, died in Austin, Texas, October 23, 1937. He married in Fredericksburg, August 20, 1907, Rebecca Baines. Mr. Johnson served as State Representative. More will be said of this family later.

Thomas Jesse Johnson, born at Buda, May 24, 1880, son of Samuel Ealy and Eliza C. Bunton Johnson, died at Johnson City, Texas, January 26, 1953. He married in 1904 or about that time, Kittie Clyde Chapman. Their children were: Ave Elma Johnson, Margaret Mabel Johnson, James Ealy Johnson, and possibly others.

The seventh child of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Johnson was George Desha Johnson, born at Buda, January 7, 1883. He perpetuated the name of Desha in the Johnson family. He died in Houston, Texas, March 11, 1940. He graduated in 1915 from the University of Michigan. He was head of the history department at Sam Houston High School in Houston, Texas.

Kate Johnson, born at Buda, July 21, 1885, was the

eighth child of Samuel Ealy and Eliza C. (Bunton) Johnson. Her first husband whom she married at Stonewall, Texas, in September 1907 was Tom Odierne. Her second husband was Turner Martin. By her first husband there was one child, Eliza Odierne. Kate Johnson Martin died in Austin, Texas, 1934.

The youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Johnson was Jesse Hermine Johnson, born at Buda May 6, 1887. She married Silas Hatcher. They resided at San Saba, Texas. To this union was born one child, Eliza Ruth Hatcher, and there may have been others about which I am not informed.

When Samuel Ealy Johnson, Jr., was about eleven years of age, the Johnsons moved to Gillespie County, Texas, locating on the Pedernales River near Stonewall.

I shall not go into a long discussion of the life of Sam E. Johnson; however, through the encouragement of his grandmother Bunton he became a teacher. In the fall of 1896 he opened school at White Oak School at Sandy, Blanco County, in a one-room schoolhouse with pupils of all sizes and ages, some older and larger than he. While there he boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Young. Mrs. Young liked to tell of his youthful dignity, pleasing manner, and his playing with the baby. The next year Mr. Johnson taught at Rocky School near Hye, in Blanco County. There he boarded with the Shipp family and around the fire in the evening listened with great interest to the experiences of Captain Rufus Perry, the Indian fighter.

Samuel's mind pointed to the study of law, which was not at that time possible for him to begin. He rented his father's land and moved to "the old House", the first farm home of his parents. For several years he and his farm hands operated the Johnson farm with considerable success, hard work and great enjoyment.

Mr. Johnson was called "Little Sam" although he was six feet tall. This distinguished him from his father who became known as "Big Sam.". Among his closest friends were W. C. Lindon and Dayton Moses, lawyers of statewide reputation, and Kay Alexander, teacher and engineer, all of whom were brilliant and able men.

In 1904 Sam Ealy Johnson, Junior, was elected to the Texas State Legislature from the 89th District. This was the beginning of nearly twelve years of service in the 29th, 30th, 35th,36th,37th and 38th Legislatures.

Young Johnson was the author of the Alamo Purchase Bill, a bill appropriating $3,000,000 to help the drouth-stricken of West Texas; a bill providing for the erection of a home for the widows of Confederate soldiers; the John Blue Sky

Law, and many other constructive legislative measures. He became famous for his speech on tolerance delivered on the floor of the House during World War I, in which he stressed patriotism tempered with common sense and justice. He was also a leader in the first rural relief program for Texas during the drouth of 1917-1918, and did much for the improvement of highways in the State.

It was August 1907 that he married Rebekah Baines, the daughter of his predecessor in the legislature. Their marriage of thirty years was broken only by death.

In 1930 he accepted a position as Inspector for the Motor Bus Division of the Railroad Commission, who spoke of him in this way;

> "Sam Johnson's diplomacy, knowledge of conditions throughout the State, his tact in dealing with men, his sound judgment, untiring energy and agreeable personality render him especially qualified for this position. He has heard and adjusted many difficulties arising from the enforcement of these laws."

After spending almost four years in San Marcos in order to place his five children in college, he and his wife returned to their home in Johnson City in the fall of 1934.

Sam Ealy Johnson, Jr., President Johnson's father, is said to have been a youth of strong ambition who was determined to let nothing stand in the way of his education. He is described by his wife as "an impatient man, who must ride faster; plow longer, straighter rows; pick more cotton than his companions. This sense of competition was a strong urge throughout his life." (15)

Samuel Ealy Johnson, Junior, passed away October 23, 1936. His remains were laid to rest in the family graveyard near Stonewall, along with so many of the relatives and his own ancestors.

From his political-minded father the President inherited his strong handshake, his direct and open aggressiveness. But this man's steel-like character was also tempered by his mother's influence.

Who is the man who has become the 36th President of the United States ?

Many women have greatly influenced the President's life - his mother, his sisters, and certainly his wife, Lady Bird, and even his daughters, Lynda Bird and Luci Baines. It was not a surprise to those who had been raised in Johnson City and who had known Lyndon Baines Johnson all his life, to see him choose a woman judge to swear him into the highest

office of the land. (16)

President Johnson's mother was, among many things, a teacher of "expression". She taught her art to many of the young men and women in the neighborhood of her home. She held classes in a room to the right of the entrance hall of the Johnson home in Johnson City. This was a fascinating room, furnished with big, comfortable chairs and lined with books which brought the wide-world to Johnson City, Texas. Mrs. Johnson was seldom without one of these books in her hand, and, if the Johnson children didn't absorb all that the books contained, it was not her fault. She was constantly finding new ways to interest her children and their friends, as well as her pupils, in the learning processes. (16)

As president of the Parent-Teacher Association, Mrs. Johnson often assisted with class play productions. She directed the senior class play of her eldest daughter, Rebekah, and many others.

Mrs. Johnson was very active in almost every phase of community entertainment. Community plays were often given in what the townfolk called the "Old Opra House". This building had been the courthouse when the county seat was first moved to Johnson City from Blanco. When the present courthouse was built, Sam Ealy Johnson, Jr., gained ownership of the old building. Here Mr. Johnson had his real estate office for several years, and the town's silent movie operated by Harold Withers was also located here, hence the name "Opra House".

President Johnson's mother showed remarkable independence, as did many of the women in the community. This independence was encouraged by her husband. Once he came home with two gifts for her-- a Victrola and a deed to the local newspaper, THE RECORD COURIER. As a trader in real estate, Mr. Johnson had taken the paper in a trade and thought his wife might enjoy publishing it. (16)

This was a new challenge for Mrs. Johnson. She soon mastered the art of being a journalist and editor. She operated the paper for four or five years -- doing the writing, the layout and advertising, and employing men to help with the actual printing process.

In addition to her teaching, her social activities and running a small-town newspaper, this remarkable woman was also an artist. She did some very good charcoal sketches which are now prized possessions of her family. (16)

The Sam E. Johnson, Jr., family lived on a farm near Stonewall until young Lyndon was about five years old and until shortly after the birth of his second sister, Josefa.

Then they moved to Johnson City to the house where they resided six or seven years. Grandfather Sam Ealy Johnson, Senior, died at this time, and Sam, Junior, sold his business property in Johnson City, including the "Old Opra House", and purchased the home-farm place. The family resided there approximately two and one half years, then moved back to Johnson City, where Mr. Sam recovered from some financial reverses by engaging in the real estate business.

Sam Ealy Johnson, Jr., was a member of the Texas State Representatives when he and Rebekah Baines were married. He served five terms in the Texas Legislature.

There is still more to be said of Rebekah Baines Johnson, and her background. She was from a distinguished family, her father having served in the Texas Legislature until 1905, when his son-in-law, Sam Ealy Johnson, Jr., became his successor.

The honorable Joseph Wilson Baines was born in Louisiana, January 24, 1847, and went to Independence, Texas when an infant. He was the father of Rebekah Baines who married Samuel Ealy Johnson, Junior. Mr. Baines was the son of the late Reverend George Washington Baines, a distinguished Baptist minister of Texas, who was for many years editor of the Texas Baptist. He was a nephew of William Baines of Denton County, Texas, and a cousin of Silas Baines of Shelby County, in the "Lone Star State". The father and uncles of Mr. Baines went from Alabama to Arkansas in its very early settlement. The uncle after whom Mr. Baines was named, Joseph W. Baines, Esq.,and family remained in that state.

George Washington Baines became Principal of Davulla Institute in 1874. S. W. Woody succeeded him in 1875. The school lasted about five years.

Joseph Wilson Baines was educated at Independence, Texas where his father resided for several years. He entered the army when quite young, enlisting in Captain W. M. Williamson's Cadets unattached, but finally embraced in Mann's regiment, served part of the term with Governor Ireland. He went to Collin County in 1867, where he taught school three successive years. He read law and entered the practice of his profession in the same county. For three years he edited the McKinney Advocate which was later known as Black Waxey. He was appointed Secretary of State by Governor Ireland, and was re-appointed after serving the first term. This was from January 1883 to 1887.

When he was appointed Secretary of State, it was the only office of importance he had ever held. His father, George Washington Baines, while in Carrol County, Arkansas, was induced to run for the legislature, was elected and

served one term, but would not again hold an office. He felt that office-holding, particularly political offices, did not suit him or any other minister of the gospel. He and his family were all Democrats and members of the Baptist Church, and according to Phil Claiborn, "certainly went to heaven".

George Washington Baines served a term as president of Baylor College, now Baylor University.

J. W. Baines served in the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, representing District No. 89, comprising the counties of Llana, Blanco and Gillespie, in the Regular Session, January 13-April 1, 1903; called session April 2-May 1, 1903, during the administration of Governor S. W. T. Lanham and Lieutenant-Governor George D. Neal. (18)

Joseph Wilson Baines married Ruth Huffman, daughter of John Smith Huffman, Junior, and wife Mary Elizabeth Perrin. The name is sometimes spelled Hoffman.

Perrin is a Huguenot family name. Members of this family came to Virginia where they became seated; later some of the descendants removed to Kentucky.

Mary Elizabeth Perrin was the daughter of William Perrin and wife Dycie Kerby (Kirby). William Perrin and family removed from Logan County, Kentucky, to Texas about 1845.

Charles and Catherine Perrin migrated from Garrard County, Kentucky, to Logan County about 1824 when they bought a tract of land consisting of six hundred acres on the headwaters of Muddy River. The spring forming the source of the river was called "Big Rush Spring". Thomas and Milly Windsor sold the land for three hundred and fifty dollars. On this land Charles and Catherine Perrin lie buried in the graveyard near where the old house stood until a few years ago. Charles Perrin was born August 20, 1765 and died September 17, 1838. Catherine, his wife, was born December 9, 1772 and died July 25, 1844. Not long after the Perrins' settled on the "Big Rush Spring" tract of land he established a mill seat at the head of Muddy River. Perrin's mill is mentioned in a deed in 1826. In later deeds reference is made to "Perrin's Old Mill". Among the children of Charles and Catherine Perrin was William Perrin, who married Dycie Kerby (Kirby). In the division of the land after the death of Charles Perrin, William received his portion which he sold on November 12, 1845, and migrated west.

William Perrin and Dicey Perrin his wife, of Logan County, Kentucky, sold to John W. Almutt, of the same county and State, for and in consideration of the sum of one thousand four hundred dollars, which was paid cash to the said William Perrin and Dicey, his wife, the same being acknowledged

..... a tract of land on the waters of Muddy River, adjoining the corner of John Perrin's line and the line of John B. Gilliam, deceased, and the corner of Kennedy and Charles Morehead .... to the corner of Z. Goff and C. Thomas and J. C. Price .... 212 acres. Signed William Perrin, Dickey X (her mark) Perrin. Proved and registered 17 November 1845, Logan County, Kentucky. (20)

This above record establishes the approximate time the family left Logan County, Kentucky.

There is an indenture dated 27 September 1845 where John Perrin and Marthey Ann, his wife, of Logan County, Kentucky sold William Perrin of the same place, for the sum of sixty-six dollars, which was paid by William Perrin, a tract of land in Logan County on the waters of Muddy River, consisting of thirty-three acres, corner of John Perrin. Signed John Perrin and Martha A. Perrin. Proved in Logan County, and recorded 10 October 1845. (21)

On the 18th day of March 1843 there is recorded a transaction between Lanton R. Spencer of the first part, and Wm. T. Duncan, Barclay and Ryan and William Perrin, for one dollar paid by the parties of the second part .... Mortgage, tools for making saddlery and harness in the town of Russellville .... including saddles and leather on hand; Spencer is indebted to Wm. Perrin, in March 1843 in the amount of sixty dollars which is now due. (Also refers to the amount owed to the other men named.) Signed L. R. Spencer, Recorded 18 March 1843. (22)

It would appear that William Perrin had accumulated a considerable landed estate in Logan County, Kentucky, for an Indenture, dated 5 January 1837 William Perrin sold to Johnathan C. Price, both parties being in Logan County, and State of Kentucky .... Perrin for the sum of three hundred sixty nine dollars and thirty seven and one half cents in hand paid, receipt acknowledged, bargained and sold to J. C. Price a certain tract of land in said county, on waters of Little Whippoowill, containing forty nine and one ninth acres; Bounded as follows- Beginning on a beadrock, South extreme corner of Charles Perrin survey; The said forty nine acres and nine poles by survey to said J. C. Price. Signed William Perrin. Dicney Perrin. Logan County, Proved by Marmaduke B. Morton, clerk of Logan County, who certified the deed from William Perrin and Dicey his wife, to Johnathan C. Price was on 6 of January 1837 and same was acknowledged in his office by Perrin to be his act and deed. Dicey was examined separate and apart from her husband. (23) This certainly proves that William Perrin and his wife were still in Logan County at that time.

The land on Little Whippoorwill William Perrin had purchased from his brother, John Perrin, on August 1, 1836

and William had paid the sum of eight hundred and twenty five dollars for the tract. It was recorded 25 August 1836. (24)

In addition to Charles and Catherine being buried in the Perrin family graveyard in Logan County, on the farm of John Watlington (1964) on the right hand side of the road leading from Dennie to Corinth and in sight of the said road, is also to be found the tombstone of Jane H. Perrin consort of Thomas J. Perrin and daughter of Benjamin Travice, who was born February 9, 1806 and died February 19, 1831 (1834 ?); George E. Perrin, son of Charles Perrin, who was born April 20, 1808 and died August 15, 1825; Abner B. Perrin, son of Charles Perrin, who was born April 6, 1796 died September 2, 1826; Eliza Sale, consort of James H. Sale, daughter of Charles Perrin, born April 28, 1798 (1793 ?, damaged) and died April 11, 1837.

Also in this old cemetery is the tombstone of John Holcomb, a native of Indiana, who was born August 15, 1825 and died September 18, 1846.

This genealogist, while searching the records in the courthouse at Russellville, Kentucky, for information on these families, met an old friend, Mr. Edward Manley of Los Angeles, California, who has done considerable work on the pioneers of Logan County. The tombstone records given herein are through the courtesy of Mr. Manley.

There is further evidence in a deed dated 13 of February 1826, of Charles Perrin of Logan County, Kentucky, where he, the said Perrin, conveyed to his son-in-law, James H. Sale, for consideration of four hundred and fifty dollars, one hundred and thirteen acres of land on Muddy River in Logan County. The deed was signed by Charles Perrin. Teste-- Abel Morgan. Charles Perrin reserves to himself the "Horse Mill" and "Derliky" including the horses on which they are entered with all the apparatus thereunto belonging to himself. 13 July 1836, signed also by James H. Sale. (25)

The wills of Charles and Catherine Perrin are also a matter of public record in the courthouse at Russellville, the county seat of Logan County, Kentucky, and read:

"In the name of God Amen, I Charles Perrin of Logan County, Kentucky, Being advanced in years and feeling the failure of my bodily vigour I am admonished of the truth that it is appointed unto all men once to die. In Thankfulness to God who has preserved me to this age and now grant to me my usual Soundness of mind and memory to the end that my closing moments may not be disturbed by worldly conceous but devoted to my Immortal interest. I do now make and ordain This my Last Will and Testament (Revoking all others). In the form following To wit- Item ... first ... I resign my-

self to God who gave me being my body at death to be by me Family and friends commited to the grave there to remain till the resurrection during which time I hope through the merits of Jesus Christ to remain in Abraham's Bossman. Item ... Two ... With regard to the earthly substance the control of which God in his providence has given me, I leave it all to my ever affectionate wife Katharine Perrin lovingly we have acquired it all together & I leave it all to her in tow to be managed by her for the common and equal benefit of all our children during her natural life with full povents sell alien and forever the rights & titles to any or all of my lands or slaves or any other description of property wherein of which I may die possessed. Item ... Three ... I leave to my said wife (after paying my just debts) all the ready money of which I may die possessed as also I hereby authorize her to secure and collect all debts and dues coming to me of every description. That this indenture may be known as my last Will and Testament I hereunto affix my hand & seal done as my last Will and Testament. I have hereunto affixed my hand & seal done this day of January 1836. Signed Charles Perrin, in the presence of T. J. Perrin, William Perrin and Isaac N. Penson. Logan County, Kentucky .... I Marmaduke B. Morton, as clerk of the said Logan County Court do hereby certify that at a County Court held for said County at the Courthouse in Russellville, of the 26th day of November 1838, the foregoing Last Will and Testament of Charles Perrin decd proved by the oaths of William Perrin and Thomas J. Perrin to be the Last Will and Testament of the said Charles Perrin, Whereupon said will was ordered by the court to be recorded which together with this certificate hath been duly admitted to record in my office. Given under my hand as clerk of said county this date. M. B. Morton, Clerk, Logan County, Kentucky."

Then we have the will of Catharine Perrin as follows: "I, Catharine Perrin of the County of Logan and State of Kentucky being of Sound mind and memory, do hereby publish make and declare the following to be my last Will & Testament- First - I wish and desire that all my Just debts be paid after which I will & bequeath to my Son John Perrin the tract of land on which I live being the same land conveyed my deceased husband Charles Perrin by Thomas Windsor. I also will and bequeath to my said Son John Perrin one negro woman named Malinda One man Jesse one girl Margaret and one other Negro Girl Julia together with the future increase of the females. I also will and bequeath to my said son John Perrin all the remainder of my property and estate of every description whatever. I have heretofore advanced to my other children their full proportion of the estate devised to me by my deceased, husband and my object is now to make my said son John equal with the other children. I also will and bequeath to John Holmes an heir of Hannah Holms One horse worth eighty or one hundred dollars to be

delivered to said John Holcome when he is twenty one years old by my son John Perrin or his agent. I also will & bequeath to the said John Holcome two hundred dollars as directed by deceased husband, Charles Perrin and is the same two hundred dollars that is Specified in sd deceased will as Given under my hand & seal this 16th of January 1841. Signed Catharine Perrin, and Attest- Thomas J. Perrin, James M. Perrin. Proved Logan County, 1844 August 26."

The name Holcombe is shown in the record of the will as Holmes and as Holcome, so this accounts for the various spelling in the above transcript of the will. (26)

From these facts we have a rather definite picture of the family of Charles and Catharine Perrin as- William Perrin who married Dycie Kirby (or Kerby), who moved to Texas about 1845; Eliza Perrin born April 28, 1798 (1793), died April 11, 1837, married James H. Sale; Thomas J. Perrin who married in Logan County, Kentucky, October 11, 1830.(27); Jane M. Travice (Travis) born February 9, 1806, died February 19, 1831 (1834 ?). Thomas J. Perrin married secondly in Logan County, the 4th month of 1840 Ephremia R. Travis (28) possibly a sister of his first wife; George E. Perrin born April 6, 1796 died September 2, 1826; John Perrin and possibly others.

From this information we can readily see that Mary Elizabeth Perrin born in Logan County, Kentucky, daughter of William and Dicey Perrin, who married John Smith Huffman, came from a family of good reputation and financial standing. We can also see that more than one line of ancestry of President Lyndon B. Johnson came from pioneer stock of Logan County, Kentucky, just a very few miles above the Tennessee-Kentucky State Line.

Going back to the children of Samuel Ealy Johnson, Jr., and wife Rebekah (Baines) Johnson, we again refer to their oldest son, Lyndon Baines Johnson, of whom we shall speak more fully later.

The second child of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ealy Johnson, Jr., was named Rebekah Luruth Johnson, born at Stonewall, Gillespie County, Texas, September 12, 1910. She became a teacher. She was employed for a time at the Library of Congress in Washington, D. C. She married at Monterrey, Mexico, Oscar Price Bobbitt, son of Oscar Price and Maude (Wisner) Bobbitt, of Mineola, Texas. Mr. Bobbitt is an Advertising Manager KTBC Radio and TV Station in Austin, Texas. Their son, Philip Chase Bobbitt, was born in Temple, Texas, July 22, 1948.

The third child of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ealy Johnson, Jr., was given the name of Josefa Hermine Johnson, born at Stonewall, Texas, May 16, 1912, married first at Lake Charles,

Louisiana, May 16, 1940, Lieutenant-Colonel Willard White; divorced 1949. She married secondly in Austin, Texas, April 23, 1955, James B. Moss, a minister, son of Matthew Carr and Alatha Jane (Whitacre) Moss. They reside at Fredericksburg, Texas. They have one adopted child, Rodney Moss, born in Biloxi, Mississippi, April 14, 1948.

Samuel Houston Johnson, the fourth child of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ealy Johnson, Jr., was born at Johnson City, Texas, January 31, 1914. He was educated to the law and public relations. He married first at Mattoon, Illinois, December 28, 1940, Albertine Summers; divorced 1946. He married secondly at Vera Cruz, Mexico, January 27, 1955, Mary Michelson Fish, daughter of Michael Arthur and Jeannette (MacFarlane) Michelson of Topeka, Kansas. They reside in Austin, Texas. Of the first marriage there were two children: Josefa Rozane Johnson, born at Mattoon, Illinois, September 29, 1941, and Sam Summers Johnson, born at Austin, Texas, October 5, 1942.

The youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ealy Johnson, Jr., namely, Lucia Huffman Johnson, was born at Johnson City, Texas, June 20, 1916. She married at Lockhart, Caldwell County, Texas, September 18, 1933, Birge Davis Alexander, son of Kay and Helen (Davis) Alexander of Sabinal, Texas. Mr. Alexander is a construction engineer. Their home is in Austin. They have one child, Rebekah Sterling Alexander, born at Fort Worth, Texas, February 13, 1944. (29)

The most distinguished member of the family is, of course, Lyndon Baines Johnson, President of the United States of America.

These words about Lyndon Baines Johnson are those which his mother recorded in her Johnson Family Book before her passing. No one could possibly know Mr. Johnson better than his own mother.

She wrote: "Lyndon Baines Johnson finished high school early, and, after a somewhat unsettled period which included a stay of several months in California and a job on the highway, entered Southwest Texas State Teachers College at San Marcos, where he acquired many scholastic honors and staunch friends along with his degree in August 1930.

"He taught school in Houston the following year. While he enjoyed teaching, when an opportunity to enter political life presented itself he became secretary to Congressman Richard Kleberg, an action particularly gratifying to his father, who by example and precept urged his son to enter the field of politics.

"After four years as secretary to Congressman Kleberg,

Lyndon resigned in August, 1935, to accept the position of State Director of the National Youth Administration for Texas. Although this position enabled him to help the youth of the State, a cherished ambition, he left it in 1937 to step into a broader field of usefulness when he entered the race for Congress from the Tenth District. On April 10, 1937, he was elected to Congress. This victory was saddened by the passing of his father in October, who enjoyed for only a few months Lyndon's attainment of the goal which he had desired for and had inspired in his son. Lyndon was a useful, energetic and capable Congressman. He left his seat in 1941 for seven months of overseas service in the Navy during World War II, and was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action.

"The friendship and encouragement of President Roosevelt was a strong influence in his life and political career.

"In his babyhood his Grandfather Johnson had affectionately predicted ---- 'This child will go to the United States Senate'. As Lyndon grew in prestige and popularity, many echoed the Grandfather's prophetic words."

In his first race for the Senate in 1941 he was counted out, but in 1948 he was successful, and again in 1954. He became first the Democratic Whip, then the Minority Leader, and finally the Majority Leader of the Senate, demonstrating great leadership and ability, a magnetic personality, untiring energy and devotion to his Country.(30)

This book is not intended to be a biography of our President. It does, however, attempt to give the traits inherited from the various branches of his ancestry. In the hope and belief that the perusal of this record of the lives and actions of distinguished and honorable men and refined and virtuous women, may stimulate others to exemplify in their own lives similar merits and virtues, and give constant examples of true manhood and womanhood.

It was John Fiske who wrote: "Without genealogy the study of History is Lifeless."

I shall quote another great philosopher whose words were: "If you do not care from whence you came, Nor from whom you have descended, Then you have no claim upon the respect nor the affection of your posterity."

Goethe wrote: "Happy he who remembers his progenitors with pride, who relates with pleasure to the listener the story of their greatness, of their deeds, and silently rejoicing sees himself linked to the end of this goodly chain."

And, in the words of the great Granier De Cassagnac: "Free to everyone to have esteem or contempt for gentle

blood. --- Euripides, preferred it to riches, --- Menander, virtue, --- Plato, glory --- Aristotle, talent, --- Socrates, wisdom, --- St. Jerome, holiness. In a word, everyone may place gentle descent on a different point of the scale of comparison. But, that will leave it a fact. --- It does exist with its political history in the past, and its decided social influence in the present."

Lyndon Baines Johnson married in 1934 Claudia Alta Taylor, better known as "Lady Bird", and the arrival of his daughters, Lynda Bird on March 19, 1944, and Luci Baines on July 2, 1947, gave him the security and inspiration of a happy home.

In July, 1955 , a heart attack somewhat altered the tempo of his life, and much of his extraordinary energies had to be curbed in order for him to rest and relax so that his health might be regained.

The President, exuberant in spirit and highly gregarious, loves harmony but also is not averse to a hard fight to win and assure that harmony. Along with his hard battles he has experienced many deep satisfactions of accomplishments and triumphs. The most thrilling experience in his life and in that of his family was the ovation he received at the Chicago Convention in 1956, when he was nominated as Texas' favorite son for the Presidency of the United States.

Mr. President is a tall man of six feet three, with a usual weight of about one hundred and seventy to eighty pounds; dark eyes and hair, and a friendliness of manner.

Lyndon Baines Johnson was nominated as a candidate at the 1960 Democratic Convention, which chose John Fitzgerald Kennedy as their favorite banner-bearer. Johnson was defeated on the first ballot, but agreed to take second place on the ticket for the vice-presidency.

Vice-President Johnson, upon the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, took over the controls of government from the dead hand of President Kennedy, with a pledge to do his best and a plea for the help of God and the American people. Thus Johnson became the 36th President of these United States of America. The oath of office was administered by United States District Judge Sarah J. Hughes of Dallas, Texas, the first woman ever to swear in a President of the United States. (31)

For thirty years "Lady Bird" Johnson has been at her husband's side in Washington. Mrs. Johnson was born as Claudia Alta Taylor, December 22, 1912, the daughter of a wealthy Texas rancher. "Lady Bird" studied Journalism at the University of Texas; took enough education courses to

qualify her as a second-grade teacher and was prepared with shorthand, typing and business courses to go to work as a secretary if need be. Little did she think at that time that the time would soon arrive when she would be the mistress of the White House in Washington, D. C., and the "First Lady of the land".

Upon the expiration of the unexpired term of President Kennedy, Mr. Johnson was nominated by the Democratic Convention to run for another term as the president, resulting in his election for a full term. With him in this campaign the Democratic Convention chose the Honorable Hubert Horatio Humphrey as his running mate.

Hubert Horatio Humphrey, Junior, like the President, has a most distinguished background, and came to his present position as Vice-President of the United States through hard work, ambition, and many sacrifices. Mr. Humphrey was born at Wallace, South Dakota, May 27, 1911, the son of Hubert Horatio Humphrey, Senior, and Christine (Sanness). His father, the senior Mr. Humphrey, was born at Albany, Oregon, and his grandfather Humphrey was a native of Union Lakes, Minnesota. Christine Sanness was born in Norway, as were both her parents, who migrated to the Northwestern part of the United States. They were strict Lutherans and Republicans. The grandmother of Vice-President Humphrey on his father's side was a native of Granite Falls, Minnesota. (32)

Hubert Horatio Humphrey, Jr., after completing a formal education, enrolled at the College of Pharmacy 1932-33, Denver, Colorado. In 1939 he received an A. B. degree from the University of Minnesota. This was followed by an A. M. from the University of Louisiana in 1940, after which in 1940 and 1941 he did graduate work at the University of Minnesota.

On September 3rd. 1936, he married Muriel Fay Buck. (33) For a time he practiced his profession as a Pharmacist with his father with the Humphrey Drug Company at Huron, South Dakota. He served as assistant instructor of Political Science at the University of Louisiana for a short time, 1939-40.

He became a member of the administrative staff of W. P. A. and later head of the State division. This was followed by being assistant state supervisor of adult education, chief of the war services section, director training re-employment division 1943. The same year he became assistant regional director War Manpower commission; during 1943 and 1944 was Professor of Political Science, Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota.

From June to November 1944 Mr. Humphrey served as State campaign manager for the Roosevelt-Truman Committee. From

1945 to 1948 he was Mayor of the city of Minneapolis, resigning as a result of having been elected United States Senator from the State of Minnesota. (34)

Footnotes:

1. Johnson -- Descendants of John Johnson, by Rebekah Baines Johnson. p. 1.
2. The Alabama Genealogical Register, September-December 1964.
3. Book "C", folio 45, pp. 46 & 47, Oglethrope Co., Ga.
4. Greene Co., Ga. Superior Court Clerk's Office, Vol. 4, pp. 144-145, March 6, 1805.
5. Johnson -- Descendants of John Johnson, by Rebekah B. Johnson, pp. 27-28.
6. Land traced by Probate Court Judge George Little. Birmingham News. December 21, 1963.
7. Johnson -- Descendants of John Johnson, by Rebekah Baines Johnson.
8. The Birmingham News, Sunday, December 15, 1963. Article by James Free.
9. Johnson -- Descendants of John Johnson, by Rebekah Baines Johnson.
10. Biography -- The Trail Drivers of Texas, p. 329; History of Blanco, County, Texas, by J. W. Speer, Chapter 15, p. 53.
11. Johnson -- Descendants of John Johnson, by Rebekah Baines Johnson; and Johnson Family Sketch, by T. U. Taylor.
12. Johnson -- Descendants of John Johnson, by Rebekah Baines Johnson, pp. 112-113.
13. Johnson -- Descendants of John Johnson, by Rebekah Baines Johnson.
14. Heroines of the Highlands of Southwest Texas,by T. U. Taylor. Chapter IV.
15. Johnson -- Descendants of John Johnson, by Rebekah Baines Johnson.
16. Texas Public Employee, March 1964. Article by Gene Barnwell Waugh.
17. Texan Annual, Vol. 2, No. 17. Quarterly No. 4. Published 1886, Austin, Texas, Wm. Neal Ramey, Editor & Proprietor, Texas State Library, Austin, Texas;

Footnotes:

McKinney Weekly Democrat, Nov. 22, 1906 & August 14, 1930, by Roy F. Hall. (Appreciation from this author to the Texas State Library for their cooperation and services.)

18. Members of the Texas Legislature 1846-1962 Texas State Library & Archives, Austin, Texas.
19. The News Democrat, Russellville, Logan County, Kentucky. October 15, 1964.
20. Deed Book "27", p. 224, Logan County, Kentucky, Russellville.
21. Deed Book "27", p. 202. Logan County, Kentucky, Courthouse, Russellville.
22. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "Z", p. 82, Courthouse, Russellville, Kentucky.
23. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "V", p. 245. Courthouse, Russellville, Kentucky.
24. Logan County, Kentucky, Deeds "U", p. 408. Courthouse, Russellville, Kentucky.
25. Logan County, Kentucky, Deeds "O", pp. 24 & 25. Courthouse, Russellville, Kentucky.
26. Logan County, Kentucky, Will Book "G", pp. 24 & 518. Courthouse, Russellville, Kentucky.
27. Logan County, Kentucky, Marriage Book "1", p. 76, Courthouse, Russellville, Kentucky.
28. Logan County, Kentucky, Marriage Book "1", p. 151, Courthouse, Russellville, Kentucky.
29. Johnson -- Descendants of John Johnson, by Rebekah Baines Johnson.
30. The Congressional Directory, 1940, p. 114, etc.
31. The Nashville Tennessean, Nov. 23, 1963, p. 1, Nashville, Tennessee.
32. Reader's Digest, Jan. 1967, p 75.
33. Newsweek, Sept. 7, 1964.
34. South Dakota Historical Society, Memorial Bldg., Michael Brook, reference librarian, Pierre, S. D. (This author expresses appreciation for their cooperation.)

THE BUNTONS OF TENNESSEE AND KENTUCKY

I have made little or no effort to trace the Bunton (Buntin) family line back of John Bunton, the pioneer settler of Sumner County, Tennessee. They arrived in the Red River Country when it was known as the Mero District, and just about the time Tennessee became a State.

The name Bunton is frequently associated with that of President (General) Andrew Jackson of the Hermitage, and with Charles Dickinson of the Cumberland Settlement, or Nashville. There was no blood relation between these two distinguished personages. This is the same Charles Dickinson who was killed by Andrew Jackson, May 30, 1806, in a duel after having met on May 29th and agreed to settle differences in this manner. Dickinson's widow later married into the Bunton family connection.

The duel, held just across the Tennessee-Kentucky line near what is now Adairville, at Harrison's Mills, was fought with pistols after Dickinson allegedly cast disparaging remarks about Rachel, Jackson's wife.

Tennessee law prohibited dueling, thus it was necessary for the two men to leave the State. Jackson was wounded when Dickinson fired his first shot; he then fired a bullet into Dickinson's body which resulted in his death a few days later. Dickinson's widow, Jane Irwin Dickinson, later married John Craighead, a brother of David Craighead.

Thomas Craighead, the first Presbyterian minister in Davidson County, Tennessee, and the headmaster of Davidson Academy located at the present Spring Hill Cemetery near Nashville, on the Gallatin Pike, was the father of John Craighead who married the widow Dickinson.

The place the duel was fought in Kentucky was not many miles where the Buntons lived.

John Bunton was in Sumner County, or that section which became Sumner County, as early as 1797, just one year or thereabout after Tennessee became a state. He may have been in the section earlier but the records do not give definite proof of it.

Some of the lands in that section owned by the Bunton family still remain in their possession to this day. Deeds on record books at Gallatin certify this fact.

John Bunton was a plain man; not of any great public prominence, so he left very little record other than his last will and testament. If Mr. and Mrs. Bunton had more

than three children they must have died in infancy. Mrs. Bunton may have been a Miss McClure. This fact I am not certain about, however some descendants claim it is true.

It is a matter of record that his wife was named Elizabeth from his will, which reads:

"In the name of God Amen, I John Bunton of the county Sumner and State of Tennessee, being in perfect mind and memory do this fourteenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and three make and publish this my last will and testatment in the manner following, viz: I first give and bequeath to my beloved wife Elizabeth a sufficient living on the place now lives, and that she supplied with her necessary wants, whilst she continues to be my widow. I also give her to be at her own disposing my negro wench Luce, a horse worth eighty dollars her saddle and bridle two beds and furniture my table furniture ---- Big wheel and little wheel and reel three cows of her own choosing four sheep, three chairs, a looking glass, a trunk, also my pots, Bake oven -- Pot Rack and tongs, Pails and wash tub -- Also I give her the use of the wash tubs also I give her the use of the cupboard, during her life then to belong to my son Joseph. I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah two dollars. I give and bequeath to my son William two dollars. I give and bequeath to my grandson John Kerr one red heifer. I give and bequeath to my son Joseph the remainder of my estate not above willed, and Lastly I nominate and appoint my sons William and Joseph to be Executors of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written. Signed John Buntin, (Seal). Signed, sealed published and declared to be my last will and testament in presence of Patrick Barr, Nancy Barr." (1)

Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Buntin the one in which we are most interested is Joseph Bunton born ca 1780, died in Logan County, Kentucky, leaving will 1844; married Phoebe Desha. The Desha family line will be taken up in more detail later.

Joseph Bunton did not long remain in Sumner County after his father's death. He removed a few miles away across the Tennessee-Kentucky line into Logan County.

Logan County, Kentucky was created in 1792 from a portion of Lincoln County, and comprised all the territory lying between Green River on the North, the North Carolina (now Tennessee) line on the South, Elk Lick and Little Barren River on the East and the Mississippi River on the West. This territory included a district which has since been divided into twenty-five counties or parts of counties, lying between the present Counties of Green and Metcalfe, and the

Tennessee River, and also the whole of the territory known as Jackson's Purchase.

According to Finley's History of Russellville and Logan County, the first visitor to the site of Russellville was Morgan Maulding "who came to the spring usually called Barclay's Spring in the spring of 1780". Morton Maulding (Maulden) appears on the list of 1795, as do Richard West, and Ambrose Maulden, the Manskers, Ewings, Dromgooles, Burwells and Jackson, "the richest men in the country",Rowland and George Madison (the latter afterwards dying in office as Governor of Kentucky), and many others who are handed down in history as men of importance. (2)

This is the same general territory in which the ancestors of the late Honorable Adali Stevenson resided.

Most of the early pioneers of Logan County who were religiously inclined were either members of the Presbyterian Church, or believed in that doctrine.

Philip Alston, from North Carolina, came to this section. When he lived in Raleigh, North Carolina, he became associated with a lot of bad men, and when he removed to Natchez, Mississippi they kept up an intercourse through the Indian Nations. When Mr. Alston moved to Nashville (Mansker's Station in Sumner County, Tennessee), it then became a line of communication from Natchez to Nashville and from Natchez to Raleigh, and from Raleigh to Nashville, and this was kept up to Logan County and to Illinois, and from Illinois to Natchez. Thus there was a continued connection and understanding between all these parties of evil.

Although Mr. Alston may not have killed anyone, about 1788 Mr. James Dromgoole left Alston's Station and formed a station for himself south of Adairville where Dr. Bowling lived, and this country from Dromgooles to Morton Mauldings became a terror to travelers. Anyone who had come out to trade for land, bringing money with them, was lost or last heard of close to these Stations, and no tombstones were found to show where their last agonies or where they slept their last sleep.

After Drumgoole left his place some skeletons were found in a cave close by. It was never learned whose they were.

The conditions in Logan County in those early years were lawlessness and vice. During all the years previous to 1800, Logan County seemed to have been almost invincible. The people were "hardened to sin and inclined to the world" and many of them were vile outlaws. In 1792 Peter Cartwright came to Logan County. At that time and for several years afterward Logan County was called "Rogue's Harbor", and people met at the county seat to drink, riot, gamble

and fight. Previous to 1800 several ministers of the Methodist, Presbyterian and other denominations had made an attempt to bring religion to the neighborhood, without avail. When the county was first settled and for a time afterwards, there was a thick growth of cane which at some places was impassable by persons, much less horses, except in paths made by large herds of buffalo. These traces led, generally, from licks to licks but sometimes to springs.

Mote's Lick on Mote's Creek close to Muddy River was one of these concentrations. From the Lick one trace went Northeast, crossing Gasper River not far from Proctor's Mill, and one went Northeast crossing Green River about the mouth of Muddy River. One trace led up Muddy River and turning east came to Montgomery Pond, on the left of the above three or four miles from the courthouse and crossing over from the east side of Muddy River, to the west, came through what was afterwards by the Cedar House, through Will Morton's farm, toward Little Whippoorwill and the one to Montgomery Pond, leading into the great trace leading from French Lick (now Nashville) to Montgomery. There were others which came into being at later dates. (3)

Mr. Alston became the first farmer, manufacturer, merchant, and established the first depot of exchange and the first bank and mint. Alston's Station, therefore, became the central station of Western Kentucky. Mr. Alston died in 1794, in Natchez Country. He had sons, Phillip and John. Phillip became an Episcopal clergyman, and John settled in the Northwest and reared a large family. (4)

So it was into this country before it really became civilized that Joseph Bunton made his settlement, and near where his father, John Bunton, had previously settled just a few miles to the south in Sumner County, Tennessee.

Joseph Bunton evidently owned no land in Tennessee, as he is not recorded as having bought or sold land in Sumner County or nearby community.

Joseph Bunton found his wife, Phoebe Desha, in Sumner County, Tennessee, but it is believed that they married in Simpson County, Kentucky, since no record is found of their marriage in either Sumner County or in Logan County, Kentucky. Simpson County records have been destroyed.

It is also possible that Joseph went to Louisiana for a short period of time, returning to Tennessee, then moving to Kentucky. This is not documented; however, some evidence of such a move is available.

There is an indenture, dated March 1838, on file in Logan County where James Foster and his wife Elizabeth of the County of Logan & State of Kentucky of one part and Joseph

Bunton late of the County and State aforesaid, of the other part ... James Foster and wife Elizabeth for and in consideration of four thousand one hundred forty seven dollars to them in hand paid by the said Bunton, receipt acknowledged ... convey to said Bunton and his heirs a tract of land in Logan County on the head waters of Little Whippoorwill, Beginning at a stone corner to McCartie running West three hundred twenty five poles to a black Jack, etc. corner to Joseph Herndon ... five hundred and seventeen acres, one hundred thirty five poles .. (N. B.) ... "We the sd James Foster and wife Elizabeth do except eighty poles of land including the school house and said land is to be in a square." Signed James X (mark) Foster, and Elizabeth Foster. Proved in Logan County. Marmaduke B. Morton, clerk. (5)

Another indenture dated 13 March 1838 between Joseph Bunton of Logan County and James Foster of second part, for the consideration of five dollars acknowledged, secures payment of two notes this day executed by the said first part of the second part for one thousand seventy one dollars and fifty cents, each, payable on the first of November 1838 and other on first of November 1839, both payable in Kentucky Bank. Elizabeth acknowledged. Signed by Joseph Bunton, No witnesses. (6)

There also appears on the records at Russellville, a document which reads: "The Commonwealth of Kentucky, Logan County, Sct--- Personally appeared before me Tighman Offutt one of the acting Justices of the peace for and in said county of Logan, aforesaid Joseph Bunton and took the following oath, That I Joseph Bunton do solemnly swear that my removal to the State of Kentucky was with intention of becoming a citizen thence and that I have not brought any slave or slaves with intention of selling them so help me God. Given under my hand and seal this Logan County Sct. I, Marmaduke B. Morton, as clerk of the said Logan County Court do hereby certify that the within certificate of sale (slaves ?) was this day delivered to me in my office and ordered to be recorded. Whereupon the same together with this certificate hath been duly admitted to record in my office, Given under my hand this first day of April 1839. M. B. Morton." (7)

Joseph Bunton is again mentioned in the records in an indenture made 25th day of January one thousand eight hundred forty one, between Joseph Bunton of the County of Logan and the Commonwealth of Kentucky of one part and G. H. Milliken of the County of Simpson and Commonwealth aforesaid, Witnesseth ... "Joseph Bunton for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred dollars in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath granted bargained and sold unto G. H. Milliken his heirs all that tract or parcel of land situate and being in the County of Logan on

waters of Little Whippoorwill and bounded as follows: Beginning at two post oaks standing in Joseph Herndon's line near the pond thence due north sixty poles to a post oak bush in said line, thence N eighty four W one hundred fifty four poles to a post oak and pointers thence S forty nine poles to a hickory corner to Kenedy thence with Kennedy's line one hundred fifty five poles to the beginning containing fifty three acres to be the same more or less, ..." Signed Joseph Bunton. Witness Mary Ann Kendall. Proved Logan County, and recorded May 3, 1841. M. B. Morton. (8)

The next time I find members of the family appearing in the records of Logan County, it appears that an indenture, entered into the 26th May 1854 Between James M. Bunton, Caroline F., his wife, and Phebe Bunton of Logan County, Kentucky, of the first part and John Evans of said County of the Second part; Witnesseth "... that the party of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of five thousand nine hundred and thirty two dollars, to them, the parties of the first part in hand paid by said John Evans, the party of the second part, receipt of which is acknowledged, confirms unto the said John Evans, his heirs and assigns a certain tract or parcel of land situate lying and being in Logan County aforesaid on headwaters of Little Whippoorwill bound as follows" - corner to George McCarty; corner to Roley Hughes; the line of Wm. Watson; corner to Silas Summers; corner to Goodwin McLemore; line of F. E. Kennedy; corner to Robert Bunton in said Kentucky line, to line of Mary Jane Beauchamp and the line of W. P. Harding, to the line of Tilman Offutt. The signatures -- J. M. Bunton, Priscilla J. Bunton, C. F. Bunton. Acknowledged January 26, 1855. (9)

Judge Faw of Franklin, Tennessee, during his lifetime wrote a number of short sketches of historical importance, among which he recorded "Natives of Tennessee, who were Signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence adopted by the Convention on March 2, 1836 -- John Wheeler Bunton (1807-1879) son of Joseph Robert and Phoebe (Desha) Bunton, was born in Sumner County, Tennessee, February 22, 1807 and died in Texas August 24, 1879. He moved from Tennessee to Texas in 1833. He married Mary Howell, daughter of John Howell of Gallatin, Tennessee in the spring of 1837. Mrs. Bunton was born in Gallatin February 22, 1816 and died September 16, 1862." (10)

In this sketch or statement by Judge Faw, he calls Robert Bunton, Joseph Robert Bunton. I do not know where he obtained the Robert part of the name as I have not found it so used in anything pertaining to Mr. Joseph Bunton except this one place.

The census records of 1820 and 1840 show Joseph Bunton first in Sumner County, Tennessee and then in Logan County, Kentucky. (11)

In 1820 there resided in Sumner County, Joseph Bunton with males 1(0-10) 2(10-16) 1(45 up) and females 3(0-10) 1(10-16) and one between twenty-six and forty-five years of age. Wm. Bunton is shown with a family consisting of males 1(10-16) 1(45 up) and females 1(26-45). John Bunton with males 1(16-26) and female 1(16-26). Thomas Bunton with males 1(18-26) and female 1(16-26). Along with them is found Benjamin Desha with males 1(18-26) and females 1(0-10) and 1(16-26), while nearby Robt. Desha whose family is shown with males 1(0-10) 1(26-45) and female 1(16-26).

In the 1840 enumeration of Logan County, Ky., Joseph Bunton is listed with males 1(15-20) 1(20-30) 1(30-40) and 1(60-70), also females 1(20-30) 1(50-60).

Joseph Bunton died 1843-44 as his will evidences. -----

"I, Joseph Bunton of the County of Logan & State of Kentucky being advanced in age and conceding the uncertainty of human life do make and publish this my last will & testament as follows To Witt - Item: I will & bequeath to my beloved wife Phebe Bunton the north east end of my farm on which I now live the dividing line to commence on Kennedy's line at the mouth of the lane near my Tobaco house running with sd lane to a Boiling Spring thence with the Branch of sd Spring to Joseph Herndons line for & during her natural life to be kept in her possession for the benefit of my son James at her death. I also give her the following named Negroes on her upper right to do with as she may think proper. My man Will & woman Hannah & child also my girl Patsey also first & second choice of my horses also one half of my cattle & Hogs & sheep - All my Beds & beding One half of my household & kitchen furniture & one years provisions.
Item - I give to my Son John Bunton fourth choice of my horses.
Item - I give to my son Desha Bunton third choice of my horses.
Item - I give to my daughter Ellen W. Quigley the possession of negro boy Natt at my death.
Item - I give to my Daughter Mary Ann Kendal fifth choice of my horses and also my negro Marge.
Item - I give to my daughter Adelia Milligan sixth choice of my horses.
Item - I wish my Son James to have my negro woman Rachael & child & pay to his Brother Desha Bunton one hundred dollars to my son John Bunton fifty dollars to the heirs of Elizabeth Turner fifty dollars and to his sister Mary Ann Kendal fifty dollars in trade at a cash price, also to his sister Adelade Milligan fifty dollars in trade at cash price and for him to have these grants to pay the money in.
Item - I give to my son Robert Bunton all the residue of my land on which he now lives also my negro boy Warren and my Woman Priss & man Jack also two head of sheep.
Item - I give to my son James Bunton all the land devised to his mother during her natural life to be managed by him

for their natural benefit, I also give him my negro man Solomon and Boy Dave and girl Bettie, Also all the property I may die possessed of both real and personal not herein specifically devised he paying all my just debts funeral expenses & c.
Item - I do hereby constitute and appoint my beloved wife Executrix and my sons Robert and James executors to this my last Will & Testament voiding all other will or codicil to will whatever. It is my express will and desire that there be no appraisement of property made inventory taken or sale of this my Estate but that my executor may manage the business of the estate fairly and liberaly according to the letter of this instrument. Given under my hand and seal this the 29th day of November 1843. Joseph Bunton (Seal) Acknowledged in presence of Walter T. Harding, Joseph Herndon, Howel x (his mark) McLemore ..... Logan County Sess. January Term 1844 .... Att a County Court held for Logan County at the Court house in Russellville on the 23rd. day of January 1844 the within last Will and Testament of Joseph Bunton decd was produced in Court and proven by the oath of Walter T. Harding and Joseph Herndon two subscribing witnesses thereto to be the action deed and last will and testament of said Joseph Bunton decd and ordered to be recorded Whereupon the same together with the certificate hath been duly admitted to record in my office. Given under my hand this date above. Marmaduke B. Morton, clerk of Logan County Court." (12)

The United States Census of 1850 for Logan County, Kentucky, District No. 1, shows 342/352 Robert H. Bunton age 31 born in Tennessee, a farmer, with real estate valued at $5210, and in his household at the time of the enumeration were P. Jane age 26, born in Kentucky; Mary E., age 8; Joseph L., age 6; John D., age 4; and Eliza C., age 1; all born in Kentucky.

In the same district at the same time enumerated 816/828 John McIntosh age 37 years born in Virginia, with a household or family including Elizabeth M., age 19 years; Gray Thomas McIntosh, age 6/12 of a year; Robt Perry, age 32 years, who was a Blacksmith; Nancy Perry age 28; William H. Perry age 10; George Thomas Perry, age 8; Mary E. Perry, age 5; Volintio Perry, age 2; and Hester Ann Perry, age 7/12 of a year; all born in Kentucky. These McIntoshes were evidently close relatives of the Bunton family.

Enumeration No. 843 at the same time for the same district records James Bunton age 29 years born in Tennessee; in his household appears Phebe Bunton, age 66, born in Tennessee, and Joseph Desha Bunton, age 24, born in Louisiana.[13]

This is where the indication is strongly shown that Joseph Bunton and wife Phebe (Desha) Bunton very likely resided in Louisiana at one time.

At this point I shall only name the children of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Bunton briefly, but later shall make further observations regarding them individually.

John Wheeler Bunton and Joseph Holmes Bunton, the two most distinguished members of the family, will be given considerable space in our story.

As shown in the will of Joseph Bunton, his daughter Ellen W. Bunton, born in Sumner County, Tennessee, married a Mr. Quigley. Mary Ann Bunton, another daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bunton and a sister of Ellen W., was also born in Sumner County, and married a Mr. Kendal.

James M. Bunton, son of Joseph and Phebe (Desha) Bunton, was born in Sumner County, Tennessee, and married in Logan County, Kentucky, February 29, 1852, Caroline F. Milliken. (14)

Joseph Desha Bunton was born about 1826 in Louisiana, a a son of Joseph and Phebe (Desha) Bunton, which we learn from the census of 1850, at which time he is given as 24 years of age, in the household with his brother, James Bunton, who was then age 29 years, born in Tennessee, and their mother Phebe. (15)

Adelia or Adelade Bunton was probably born in Sumner County, Tennessee, also. She married a Mr. Milliken or Milligan, as some say. (16)

Elizabeth Bunton, daughter of Joseph and Phebe (Desha) Bunton, was probably born in Sumner County, Tennessee, and married a Mr. Turner. (17)

I have made little effort to trace the descendants of the daughters of the family of Joseph Bunton and wife Phebe (Phoebe) (Desha) Bunton.

John Wheeler Bunton, the distinguished Texas pioneer, was quite possibly the most outstanding of the family. He was born in Sumner County, Tennessee near the Kentucky line, February 22, 1807, and after a most brilliant career died in Texas, August 24, 1879. In Tennessee, about 1837, he married Mary Howell, a native of Sumner County, born February 22, 1816 and died in Texas September 16, 1862.

Miss Brewye Bunton, a native of Hays County, Texas, daughter of Desha and Mary C. Bunton and granddaughter of Colonel John Wheeler Bunton and wife Mary Howell, became a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution through her ancestral line. (18)

A most interesting article appears in an old newspaper, January 8, 1933. The name of the paper does not appear, but

it was most likely a local Nashville, Tennessee paper. It reads: " ... A GIRL DIPLOMATIST ---- FROM TENNESSEE WHO MATCHED HER WITS WITH A MEXICAN RULER. Story of Mary Howell Buntin Is Heroic, One Linking Texas and Tennessee! Written by Josephine Pearson. --- Like a beautiful young Queen Esther who once pleaded for her people's liberty before a foreign despot king --- a beautiful young wife of Sumner County once matched her wits and charm against the cruel Santa Anna to win the freedom of 140 persons from a Mexican prison.

"She was Mary Howell Bunton, member of a distinguished family of Tennesseans, whose husband, Col. John Wheeler Bunton, had been one of the seven men who had captured General Santa Anna at the battle of San Jacinto which set Texas on the road to freedom and self-government.

"Her life-story- woman though she was --- reads like those of the other Tennesseans whose names shine in Texas history, Sam Houston and the martyred Davy Crockett. It has its beginning in lovely Sumner County, where her grandmother, another Mary Howell, had pioneered from North Carolina, and had its close in 1862 at the 'Rancho Ramboulette' of thousands of acres, twenty-one miles south of Austin, the home she established with her husband after her masterful diplomacy had set them, their one hundred loved friends and relatives free.

"--- Great granddaughter Brewye Bunton lived in 1930 in that home.

" --- On March 2, 1932 on the ninety-sixth anniversary of the Declaration of Texas Independence, a document which Colonel Bunton signed, under the auspices of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, the bodies of Colonel and Mrs. Bunton were re-interred in the State Cemetery at Austin, the Arlington of Texas, by a recently authorized act of the Texas Legislature.

" --- Thomas Howell of Sumner County was the father of Mary Howell II, born February 22, 1816.

"In 1837 Colonel John W. Bunton, born in Sumner County, Tennessee, February 22, 1807, a nephew of Governor Joseph Desha of Kentucky, flush from the victory of San Jacinto, came back to Tennessee to claim his first sweetheart as his bride.

"Colonel Bunton had gathered a company of some one hundred forty persons including his brother Desha Bunton and wife and baby, John Kendall who married his sister, and others, with more than one hundred slaves.

"All took passage in a boat that shipped down the Mississippi River to New Orleans whence they boarded another

steamer.

"They settled down for a trip across the Gulf of Mexico.

" ... Grander than Zenobia is the woman who struggles along with her loving mate in a new land --- Such were the Howell women --- among them was Mary Howell Roscoe, great-grandmother of Josephine Pearson.

"Mary Howell II, niece of Mary Howell Roscoe, wife of John W. Bunton and the wife of President Jefferson Davis of the Confederacy." (19)

Just what was the battle of San Jacinto and the causes thereof ? What made Colonel Bunton such an outstanding figure in Texas history and the history of the United States ?

It was at a time when Martin Van Buren's administration as President of the United States was just over. General William Henry Harrison had been elected President of the United States, and John Tyler of Virginia was the Vice-President.

President Harrison was sixty-eight years of age when he was inaugurated on March 4, 1841, but he seemed strong and vigorous for a man of his years. On that eventful day, the President-elect rode down Pennsylvania Avenue on a white horse in the midst of a cold, driving sleet and rain, and took the oath of office in the presence of sixty thousand people, and read his inaugural address in a clear, distinct voice. Soon thereafter he became ill with pneumonia and died on the 4th of April, just one month after being made President.

Vice-President Tyler was absent from Washington when President Harrison died, but he returned to the city at once, took the oath of office and became the tenth President of the United States. He issued an inaugural address and requested Harrison's cabinet to continue in office. The Whig party, formed in 1834, which had elected Harrison and Tyler was composed of various elements which had been brought together by their common opposition to General Jackson and his arbitrary measures. Mr. Tyler was a strong "States Rights" man, and was also opposed to a National Bank which he considered unconstitutional.

The most remarkable event in Mr. Tyler's time was the annexation of the Republic of Texas to the United States. The first white settlement was made in Texas by La Salle, but it afterwards passed into the hands of Spain and was regarded as a part of Mexico.

In 1820 and 1822 Moses Austin from Connecticut and his

son, Stephen, a native of Virginia, obtained a large grant of land from the Spanish authorities, and carried a number of Colonists from the United States to the Country between the Brazos and Colorado Rivers. The whole territory became free from Spanish rule when Mexico revolted and established an independent government. Settlers from the Unites States continued to move into Texas until in 1833 there were 20,000 of them. These English speaking people found the Mexican rule so oppressive that they determined to throw off the yoke and set up a republic for themselves.

This they did in 1835, but not without desperate fighting and bloodshed. The fortress of the Alamo in San Antonio in which was a force of one hundred forty men, to whom thirty-two others cut their way through the Mexican army, was beseiged by Santa Anna with four thousand Mexican soldiers. After a bombardment of eleven days the Alamo was carried by storm and the whole garrison cut to pieces. Only three persons, a woman, a child, and a servant, were spared to tell the tale. Among these defenders of the Alamo perished Colonel Davy Crockett.

A few weeks later the Mexicans brutally murdered three hundred prisoners who had been overpowered by a large Mexican force and had surrendered. By Santa Anna's order they were all executed at Goliad. General Sam Houston, a native of Virginia, who had migrated from Tennessee to that country, was commander-in-chief of the Texan army. His men had become disheartened by the defeats at the Alamo and Goliad, and were almost panic-stricken when General Houston continued to fall back before Santa Anna, across the Colorado, across the Brazos, and at last across the San Jacinto. Such was the dread of Mexican barbarity that the whole population tried to move on and keep Houston's army between them and Santa Anna.

Having drawn Santa Anna and a detachment of his army away from reinforcements and supplies, Houston collected about eight hundred men on April 21, 1836, gave battle on the field of San Jacinto to the pursuing army, double in number. Their warcry was "Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!" and they soon routed the army. Among the prisoners taken was Santa Anna, the President of the Mexican Republic. General Houston entered into negotiations with him. The Mexican troops were withdrawn, and the independence of Texas was accomplished. (20)

The next individual which I shall take up is Robert Holmes Bunton, son of Joseph, the son of John Bunton, the pioneer of Sumner County, Tennessee. Robert Holmes Bunton was born in Sumner County in 1819, and died in Caldwell County, Texas. He married in Logan County, Kentucky, December 2, 1841, Priscilla Jane McIntosh, born 1824 in Kentucky, possibly Logan or Simpson County. She also died in Texas.

First, a correction which needs attention: on page 114 of Mrs. Rebekah Baines Johnson's book on the Johnson family, Robert Bunton is referred to as Robert Desha Bunton. On page 112 she refers to the same person as Robert Holmes Bunton, which is the correct name of our subject. He is most often referred to as Robert H. Bunton.

It is quite possible that after the birth of Robert Holmes Bunton in Sumner County, his parents removed to Louisiana for a short time, then returned to Tennessee and located just over the State line in Logan County, Kentucky, in the Whippoorwill and Muddy Rivers area. This section was near the Simpson County line. It is said that both Joseph Bunton and his son, Robert H. Bunton, acquired considerable lands which stretched into both Logan and Simpson Counties. This statement is not documented because Simpson County is void of records, even deeds, for that period, the courthouse having burned many years ago. The McIntosh lands also reached into Simpson County.

The first record of any importance I have located in which Robert H. Bunton took part, reads: "This indenture made and entered into this 9th day of September the 1848 between Robert H. Bunton, and Priscilla J. Bunton, his wife, of the County of Logan, State of Kentucky, of the one part, and John McIntosh of the County and State aforesaid of the other part, WITNESSETH that the sd Robert H. Bunton and Priscilla Jane his wife, for and in consideration of the sum of Seventy five dollars, in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath this day bargained and sold and by these presents doth bargain and sell, alien and convey, all their right title and interest in the estate of Loyd McIntosh Desed, which to them belongs or in any wise appertains together with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining. To have and to hold unto the said John McIntosh his heirs and assigns forever, and the said Robert H. Bunton and Priscilla Jane his wife, their heirs and executors Administrators and assigns thereto the said John McIntosh his heirs and assigns the above described property and interest, right title and all that thereto appertains free from the claims of themselves, their heirs Executors Administrators or assigns, and all other persons will forever warrant and defend by these presents. In witness whereof the said Robert H. Bunton and Priscilla J. Bunton his wife hereunto set the hands affix his seal the day and date first above written. Signed, Sealed in presence of (no witnesses shown). R. H. Bunton (Seal), P. J. Bunton (Seal). Proved Logan County, Kentucky, James E. Wright, clerk." (21)

Here we learn that Priscilla Jane was the daughter of Loyd McIntosh, and we have also learned that her father was deceased by the date of the above instrument, and that he apparently resided in Logan County, Kentucky.

The McIntosh family will be taken up later and discussed in more detail.

Rilen Creekmore, of Logan County, "do mortgage my present tract of land and residence" containing sixty-eight acres, in Logan County, bordering Joseph Herndon, W. P. Harding, A. H. Kennedy, T. Faurgueman and R. H. Bunton for the express purpose of securing unto Robert H. Bunton a certain amount of money, which "I, Creekmore" have borrowed of the said Robert H. Bunton -- $100.00 as a note executed by me to Bunton, 26 January 1852. Teste L. Guillum, H.L. Gillum, Recorded 23 February 1852. Signed Rilen Creekmore.(22)

Another record dated 14 January 1853, between "Rilen Creekmore of the first part and Robert H. Bunton of the second part, all of the county of Logan & State of Kentucky. The said Creekmore of the first part in and for the consideration of sum of one hundred dollars paid in hand, hath this day granted bargained and conveyed to the said Bunton of second part to him and his heirs and assigns forever --- the following described tract of land lying and being in the said County of Logan on the waters of Little Whippoorwill and bounds as followeth to wit -- Begin at a Stone then running N. 69½ W 28 poles to a stone thence S 7 W 74 poles to a stone, thence S 83 E 26 poles to a stone, thence N 15 poles to a post oak, on stone, the said tract or parcel of land, with all the appurtenances belonging to the said Bunton to his heirs and assigns and the said Creekmore dothly presents warrant and defend the title to said tract of land from all other persons. In testimony of the foregoing the said Creekmore hereunto sets his hand in office his seal this day and date first above written. Signed Riley Creekmore (Seal). Proved in Logan County, Kentucky, 18 February 1854." (23)

An "Indenture 8 August, 1854, Robert H. Bunton and Priscilla Jane his wife of Logan County, Kentucky, of first part and John B. Gillum of the same place. Robert H. Bunton and Priscilla Jane his wife for the consideration of three thousand one hundred and fiftynine dollars and thirty seven and one half cents paid to the said Robert H. Bunton and Priscilla Jane, in hand paid by John B. Gillum receipt acknowledged, bargain and sell, a tract of land in Logan County on head waters of PLeasant Run Fork of Little Whippoorwill, bounded --- a tract of land sold by James Bunton to John Evans and a line of F. E. Kennedy --- with the line of Mary Jane Beauchamp, her line --- corner to Creekmore --- F. E. Kennedy line --- one hundred acres three rods and thirty five poles, Surveyed. Signed Robert H. Bunton. P. J. Bunton." (24)

It was not until about 1855 that the Robert H. Bunton family left Logan County, Kentucky for a new home in Texas. There is the transaction of the sale of some property in

Logan County, Kentucky, in association with a person named Proctor. This record or instrument is acknowledged by Robert H. Bunton from Caldwell County, Texas. This is the only place I have found which definitely establishes where, and the approximate time,the family left Logan County. (25)

Robert Holmes Bunton married Priscilla Jane McIntosh, December 2, 1841 in Logan County; their daughter Eliza was born June 24, 1849 in the same county. This daughter died in Texas in 1917, having married Samuel Ealy Johnson after the family removed to Texas. The son of Eliza Bunton and Samuel Ealy Johnson, Senior, namely Samuel Ealy Johnson, Junior, married Rebekah Baines, and they became the parents of President Lyndon Baines Johnson.

The home of Robert Holmes and Priscilla Jane (McIntosh) Bunton, where Eliza Bunton was born, is near Corinth in Logan County. The farm on which the family resided at the time of her birth contained one hundred and fifty-seven acres and was sold by the Buntons in 1854. This farm is now owned by Miss Louise White, and is located on the Corinth-Dennis road near the highway leading from Russellville to Franklin, Kentucky in Simpson County. Adjoining this farm is that on which Joseph and Phoebe Bunton lived. I am told that rocks from the chimney of the old two-story log house were used about 1959 in the building of the replica of the old Red River Presbyterian meeting house near Adairville, in the southern part of Logan County, very near the Tennessee line. I am informed that the farm which Joseph Bunton and family lived on is now probably owned by Mr. and Mrs. Enlow Rogers of Corinth, Kentucky, and was sold by Phoebe, James and Caroline Bunton about 1854 to John and Amelia Evans. This is verified by the deed which I have previously mentioned.

Priscilla Jane McIntosh was born in 1824, the daughter of Loyd McIntosh, who migrated from Virginia to Logan County, Kentucky about 1817. Soon after arriving in Logan County, Mr. McIntosh purchased one hundred acres of land on Little Whippoorwill Creek from Thomas Harper. Loyd McIntosh died about 1848 in his Kentucky home, leaving no will, but the names of his children are revealed in deeds. George McIntosh whose wife was named Sarah, had moved to Missouri; John McIntosh, born about 1813 in Virginia, married Elizabeth Perry; Julia McIntosh, born in Virginia about 1807, married James A. Harper of Logan County, Kentucky; Rachel McIntosh, born after the family moved to Kentucky in 1817, married William McIntire; and Priscilla Jane, born in 1824 in Kentucky, married Robert Holmes Bunton.

On the 27 August 1838 between Lloyd McIntosh of Logan County, Kentucky, of one part and John McIntosh of Logan County, of the second part --- tract of land in Logan County, adjoining where I now live --- deeded to me by Com'ms

to --- settle estate of Sam'l Perry (decd). Signed Loyd McIntosh. Recorded 16 February 1839. (26)

On the 21st of April 1848, Wm. R. McIntire and Rachel his wife, of Logan County, of one part to John McIntosh of same place, of second part for one hundred dollars sell all right, title, etc., in estate of Loyd McIntosh, deceased. Signed Wm. R. McIntire, Rachel McIntire. No witnesses. Recorded 21 April 1848. (27)

The census records of Logan County, Kentucky, as well as those of Caldwell County, Texas, aid us to follow the family through the years. In 1820 Logan County, Loyd McIntosh is listed with males 2(0-10) 1(26-45) and females 1(0-10) 1(10-16) 1(26-45). In 1830 census of the same county and state, Loyd McIntosh is shown with males 1(10-15) 1(20-30) 1 (50-60), females 1(5-10) 1(10-15) 1(15-20) and 1(40-50). In 1840 the Logan County census reports Loyd McIntosh with males 1(20-30) 1(60-70) and females 1(15-20) 1(50-60). (28)

The marriage of Robert H. Bunton and Priscilla J. McIntosh "of age", return made filed January 2nd, 1841, by Caleb Weeden, may be seen on the old records at the courthouse in Russellville, the county seat of Logan County, Kentucky. (29)

The Caldwell County, Texas, census of 1860 shows that the family resided at or near Lockhart and that the family of Robert H. Bunton and Jane his wife consisted of -- Robert H. Bunton age 41 born Tenn, stock raiser, with personal property value at $1420: Jane age 40, born in Kentucky; Mary age 18; Joseph age 16; Eliza age 11; Susan age 8; George age 3 (or 5 ?); Jane age 2, all born in Kentucky. In the family also lived Eli Taylor age 20, born in Kentucky, a laborer. (30)

By 1870 the Buntons and Johnsons were both well established in Caldwell County, Texas, at Lockhart or in that community with Postoffice at Lockhart. Enumeration number 1080-1108 R. H. Bunton age 52 born Tennessee, farmer, with Personal property valued at $700, and in his household: P. J. age 51, female, born in Kentucky; Mary A. age 18; Jane age 12; Kate age 6. The first two children mentioned were born in Kentucky but the last one, Kate, is shown as having been born in Texas. Thus it would appear the family arrived in Texas about 1859 or 1860. In the same household in 1870: Samuel Johnson age 32, born Georgia, occupation Stock Raiser; Eliza age 20 born in Kentucky. At that time they are shown with one child, Mary, age 1 born in Texas.

In the town of Lockhart in 1870 as shown by the census enumerations, No. 704-713 Wm. Johnson age 45 born Alabama, a school teacher, with a family consisting of Elizabeth,age 37; Mary 18 (attending school); Wm. E., age 12; Ida age 10

Emma age 7; all born in Alabama; and Sarah, age 2, born in Mississippi.

There was also a David Johnson in Lockhart, enumeration No. 705-714, who was age 36 years, born in Alabama, and in his household: Sarah age 37, Thos. age 14, and James age 10 all born in Alabama, and Mary age 8 born in Texas.

At the same time living in Caldwell County, was a Joseph Bunton age 30, born either in Tennessee or Texas, a Stock raiser, with real estate valued at about $700 and personal property valued at about $4000, with Sarah age 26 born in Georgia; an infant age 7/12 of a year born in Texas. In this same household was Martha Hord age 64 born in North Carolina.

Joseph L. Bunton, son of Robert Holmes and Priscilla Jane (McIntosh) Bunton, was born in Logan County, Kentucky in 1843-4, as his age given in the 1850 census of Logan County, as six years; the 1860 census shows him as 16; and the 1870 records him as 30. His wife was named Sarah and was a native of Georgia.

John Desha Bunton, born in Logan County, Kentucky 1846. The 1850 census gives him as four years of age. He died in Logan County, 4 September 1856 age about ten years. His grave has recently been found (tombstone) in the McIntire-McIntosh graveyard. The McIntires and the McIntoshes intermarried. It is very possible that some of the other Buntons are buried in this same graveyard, but we have no inscribed stones marking them.

The third child of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holmes Bunton was Eliza C., born in Logan County, Kentucky, June 24, 1849, removed to Caldwell County, Texas, with her parents and there married Samuel Ealy Johnson, Senior -- they became the grandparents of President Lyndon Baines Johnson.

Mary E. Bunton, sister of Eliza C., and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holmes Bunton, may have been the oldest child but the order of birth is uncertain.

Susan Bunton, another daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holmes Bunton, was born 1852 in Logan County. She is shown in the 1860 Caldwell County, Texas census as age 8 years, born in Kentucky.

George Bunton, born in Logan County about 1855, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holmes Bunton.

Jane Bunton, born about 1858 in Kentucky, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Bunton, was named in honor of her mother, Priscilla Jane (McIntosh) Bunton.

The youngest child of the Bunton family, Kate, was not born until after the family removed to Texas. She is listed in the 1870 census as six years of age.

Footnotes:

1. Will Book I, Sumner County, Tenn., p. 40; in courthouse at Gallatin, Tenn: also Sumner County Tennessee Abstracts, Will Books I & II, by Edythe Whitley, Genealogist-Historian, Nashville, Tennessee.
2. Register Kentucky State Historical Society, Vol. 23, No. 67. January 1925, p. 3.
3. History of Russellville and Logan County, Kentucky, by Finley, published 1879 (very rare); a copy in the Tennessee State Library, Nashville, Tenn.
4. History of Russellville and Logan County, Kentucky, by Finley, 1879.
5. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "V", p.467, courthouse Russellville, Logan County.
6. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "V", p.468, No.424, courthouse, Russellville.
7. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "W", p.278, courthouse, Russellville.
8. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "X", p.352, courthouse, Russellville.
9. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "33", p.415, courthouse, Russellville.
10. Manuscript of historical short sketches and notes by Judge Faw of Williamson County, Tennessee, on file in Tennessee State Library, Nashville, Tennessee, and a copy in the Whitley Genealogical Collection, Nashville.
11. United States census 1820, Sumner County, Tennessee; also 1840 census of Logan County, Kentucky.
12. Logan County, Kentucky, Will Book "G", p.432, courthouse, Russellville.
13. Logan County, Kentucky, U. S. Census 1850, District No.1., on film, Tennessee State Library, Nashville.
14. Logan County, Kentucky, Marriage Book "2", p.81, courthouse, Russellville.
15. Logan County, Kentucky, 1850 census, on film, Tennessee State Library, Nashville, Tennessee.

Footnotes, continued:

16. Will of Joseph Bunton, Logan County, Kentucky. Will Book "G", p.432.

17. Will of Joseph Bunton, Logan County, Kentucky. Will Book "G", p.432.

18. Daughters of the American Revolution National No.35616.

19. Bunton Family Sketch. Verticle File, Tennessee State Library, Nashville, Tennessee, includes newspaper clippings dated January 8, 1933, story by Josephine A. Pearson.

20. Lee's Advanced School History of the Unites States, by Susan Pendleton Lee and Louise Manly, 1899, p.302.

21. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "33", p.323, courthouse Russellville.

22. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "31", pp.284-5, courthouse, Russellville.

23. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "33", p.73, courthouse, Russellville.

24. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "33", p.331, courthouse, Russellville.

25. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "33", p.392, courthouse, Russellville.

26. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "A", p.203, courthouse, Russellville.

27. Logan County, Kentucky, Deed Book "28", pp. 542-3, courthouse, Russellville.

28. United States Census of Logan County, Kentucky, 1820-1830-1840-1850.

29. Logan County, Kentucky, Marriage Book "1", p.152.

30. United States Census, 1860, Caldwell County, Texas, Post Office Lockhart, No.124-110.

31. United States Census, Caldwell County, Texas, 1870, pp. 161, 104, 126, Lockhart, Post Office.

THE DESHA FAMILY

Tradition says that an ancestor gave his name to the King of France as Robert des Cheine, because he lived in an oak grove, from which the family symbol, an oak "spray of Leaves and acorn".

Couer de Chene -- Deshayes of France -- Desha Family

The Huguenot emigration to America is a subject of abiding interest to the historian, as well as to those who enjoy reading history for pleasure. The Frenchman's love for his homeland exceeds that of any other nationality, and the causes leading to the extirpation of any considerable number of them must be dire in the extreme.

There is a peculiar charm clustering around the relations of France with the American Colonies during their struggle for freedom in the dark days of the Revolution.

The Reformation in France first established itself in the department of Meaux, and from thence spread rapidly. The leading spirit of this movement was Jacques Lefever who with a fiery zeal and restless energy proclaimed the Reformation in many places.

The year 1560 marks the period of armed collision between the Papists under the Guises and the Huguenots under the Prince of Conde. The aggression of the Guises plunged the country into Civil War. The Huguenots were led by the Prince de Conde and the Duke de Coligny. The Papists were led by the King of Navarre and the Duke of Guise. Both armies were swelled by thousands of recruits from foreign lands.

On November 10, 1567, an indecisive battle was fought near Paris in which Montomorency,one of the Triumvirates, was killed. The success of the Huguenots induced Catharine de Medici to sue for peace, on condition that the edict of pacification should be permanently established. To this the Prince of Conde, on behalf of the Protestants, assented, and the treaty of Longjumeau was signed March 20, 1568. Never was a solemn treaty more shamefully violated. Scarcely had the Protestants laid down their arms when the priests doubtless instigated by the higher authorities, inflamed their people against the defenseless Huguenots, and the most frightful atrocities were committed. In these months upwards of 10,000 were put to death, many by means of the most horrible methods.

Troubles continued, and the great leader of the Hugue-

nots, the Duke de Coligny, conceived the idea of establishing Colonies of his persecuted countrymen in America.

A settlement was made on Manhattan Island, now New York City. The names of the passengers on "The Netherlands" have been lost. Many of them appear as among the first citizens of New Netherlands.

New Rochelle, a short distance up the Hudson River, was likewise a Huguenot colony, and named in honor of the French city of that name from which many of the colonists had come.

When the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes (1685) extinguished the last vestige of their civil and religious rights, a very large number, aggregating hundreds, came to Boston prior to 1690, from which point they scattered to various Colonies.

Pennsylvania stands unique in the history of the Colonies of the NEW WORLD as a place offering refuge for the persecuted and oppressed of the Old World. Its establishment had, in fact, its inception in the earnest desire of its founder to provide an asylum, not only for the people of his own faith, but for all other Protestants as well.

Refugees after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes (1598, revoked 1685), the Deshays are said to have fled to Wales and subsequently removed to Holland, whence they emigrated to New Amsterdam (New York), settling at New Rochelle. Many of the name lived in Rochelle, France; many of these were spoken of as Huguenots.

The Desha family came to near the Delaware Water Gap in Monroe County, Pennsylvania -- the Minisink Flats, the settlement of which antedates the founding of the Province by William Penn.

The Minisink settlers were mostly Huguenots from Esopus on the Hudson River. Prior to the English occupancy, they had constructed a wagon road through the wilderness from Esopus to the Water Gap on the Delaware, a distance of about one hundred miles over which they conveyed minerals and other products from the Delaware to the Hudson River.

This Colony is remarkable from the fact that there are no records of its establishment. It had no connection whatever with the Colonies on the Lower Delaware, and of which the Minisink settlers are said to have had no knowledge.

They were left undisturbed on their lands by the Penn Proprietors until 1730 when the Surveyor General, Nicholas Scull and his deputy, John Lukens, proceeded to the settlement to investigate its character and titles.

In this colony was the Decha (now Desha) family from Esopus. (1)

Mr. P. F. Cope, the historian, wrote to this author: "This Desha family would make an interesting study in heredity, my half aunt, Emma, had a large inheritance from General Desha, and other inheritances. She was a very beautiful woman, whose only happy marriage was her last. I think several of her children died suddenly of meningitis or other acute spinal diseases. There seemed to be a singular mixture of brilliantly ambitious and unfortunate heredity. 'Aunt Emma' like General Robert Desha and Mrs. Belmont, had in her early life, an ungovernable temper."(2)

Robert Desha (of the forest), Huguenot, went from France to Holland, and (possibly by way of Wales) eventually emigrated to America; married a Miss Everfieldt of a Dutch family. They settled in New Rochelle, now in Westchester County, New York State, and subsequently removed to the vicinity of the Delaware Water Gap, now in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, near which was the Minisink Congregation, Reformed Dutch, of which they were members.

This section is sometimes called the "Wyoming Valley". Here was one of the earliest settlements of Pennsylvania; was connected with New York State (New Holland) by a fine road for the shipping of ore from the Minisink mines, providing the early settlers with great wealth (also from the farming lands North of the Gap).

From Monroe County, Pennsylvania, the Desha descendants travelled through Virginia to Kentucky, and thence to Tennessee and Alabama. (3)

There was another little settlement five miles south from here, on a little river, called Desha and made up entirely of people from the United States.

The name of the first Desha pioneer in America seems to have been Robert. Little is known of him except that he was in the section of country we are discussing, at a very early date.

We, therefore, begin our main story with Robert Desha, son of the immigrant ancestor. Robert the Second was born about 1738 and first saw the light of day in the "Wyoming Valley", in Pennsylvania, that section now Monroe County.

After a few years, about the year 1758, young Robert married in Columbia County, Pennsylvania, Eleanor Wheeler, born about 1740 in that state, daughter of Joseph Wheeler and wife Maria Holmes.

Monroe County was actually not established until 1836

from Northampton and Pike Counties. Stroudsburg was made the county seat of Monroe at the time of establishment. Northampton County was carved from Bucks County, with Easton as the county seat. This was 1752.

Pike County was cut from Wayne in 1814, with Milford as the seat of justice.

Columbia County, Pennsylvania, was created in 1813 from Northumberland County. The county seat of Columbia was established at Bloomsbury. Northumberland County was taken from portions of Lancaster, Bedford, Berks and Northampton, and was established in 1772 with the seat at Sanbury. Lancaster County was cut from Chester County in 1729, with Lancaster as the county seat. Bedford County was taken from Cumberland in 1771, and Cumberland was carved out of Lancaster in 1750.

Joseph Wheeler was born ca 1720 in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, and died before February 1787, in the same county. His will was proved there, February 1787. During the Revolutionary War he resided in Northumberland County. I have verified the fact that Joseph Wheeler was a private soldier and Corporal during the war of and for Independence. He served on the Frontier of Pennsylvania in the vicinity of Fort Wheeler. His wife, Maria Holmes, died about 1790. The exact date of her birth is not known, nor do I know the names of her parents. These facts do not appear on the numerous application papers which have been filed by descendants in several patriotic societies. (4)

Cisco, and some other historians and genealogists, have stated and put in print that Joseph Wheeler was a "Captain" in the Revolutionary War. I have not been able to establish this rank. I have established that he was a Corporal, (5), as follows: "Names and Rank of the Invalid Regiment of Pennsylvania, Commanded by Colo. Lewis Nicola, as it was Discharged April 1783 (a). Capts., Arnold Thomas; McFarland, Moses; Hills, Ebenezer; Leibert, Philip; Williams, William; Cooper, Leonard; ... Corporal: Joseph Wheeler. (6)

It would appear that Joseph Wheeler had served in the military before the Revolutionary War. (7) A list of officers of the Pennsylvania Regiment for the year 1760 (a) -- First Battalion -- Captain: George Craighead, April 26; Lieutenant: John Mullen, April 29; and Ensign, Joseph Wheeler, April 23.

Much more can possibly be found regarding Joseph Wheeler and family in the records in Pennsylvania.

It is said with authority that Joseph Wheeler is buried on his farm near the frontier fort which bears his name, in Pennsylvania. (8)

Now we come back to Robert Desha, the husband of Eleanor Wheeler, who migrated from Pennsylvania, first to Virginia, then into Kentucky in 1781, and the next year removed to Sumner County, Tennessee, where he fixed his home about four miles east from Gallatin, the county seat of Sumner County, at which place he died and was buried. His grave and those of other members of his family may be seen in an enclosed square made of rude stone, in a field about one hundred yards from the Hartsville Pike. Two of his sons were killed by the Indians.

There are several excellent references which give the birth, death and marriage, as well as the military service during the Revolutionary War of Robert Desha. (9)

Robert Desha is accredited with having served as a private in 1780 in Troops under Capt. John Boyle, Revolutionary War. His services were charged to the Virginia Soldiers. (10)

A list which comprises a large portion of those who were enrolled as pioneer soldiers of Kentucky, between the years 1778 and 1781, Captain John Boyle's Company, April 1, 1780. At Stations on and near Dick's River, in now Garrard, Lincoln and Boyle Counties ... John Boyle, Captain. ... Private, Robert Desha.(11)

Why did Robert Desha and other prominent families select Sumner County for their place to settle down in the new country ? Not a more beautiful, more fertile, or one richer in historical associations could have been picked. It would have been difficult for him to select a place in which more men known to fame made their homes. Within that area was created the first cabin built by members of the Anglo-Saxon race in Middle Tennessee, and was cleared some of the first fields later to become fine agricultural plantations.

Within that circle was the home of Griffith Rutherford, a famous General in the Revolutionary War, a member of the Provincial Congress, and President of the Legislative Council for the Government of the Territory South of the Ohio River, and for whom Rutherford County, North Carolina, and Rutherford County, Tennessee, were named; General Daniel Smith who made the first map of Tennessee, Secretary of the Territory, United States Senator from 1805 to 1809, and for whom Smith County was named; William Trousdale, General, Governor and diplomat, and for whom Trousdale County was named; William Hall, General, Governor and member of Congress; James Winchester, an officer of the Revolutionary War, a Brigadier-General in the War of 1812; Colonel Anthony Bledsoe, member of the Legislature of Virginia and of North Carolina, a Captain in the Colonial Army, a Major in the Revolutionary Army, a Colonel of militia in what is now Tennessee, and for whom Bledsoe County is named; Colonel

Isaac Bledsoe, explorer, pioneer, Indian fighter, and a Major of militia; David Wilson, Major in the War of Independence, Speaker of the first Territorial Assembly of Tennessee, and for whom Wilson County was named; Colonel James Lauderdale, who fell at the first battle of New Orleans in December, 1814, and for whom counties in Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi were named; William B. Bates, Soldier and United States Senator; Senator William M. Gwin, of California; Rt. Reverend John B. Morris, Bishop of the Roman Catholic church; William McKendree, Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Balie Peyton, orator and statesman; Andrew Jackson Donelson, diplomat and candidate for Vice-President on the ticket with Fillmore in 1856; William Fulton, Governor of the Territory of Arkansas, and United States Senator from that state; and many others too numerous to mention.

I cannot pass up the opportunity to say more about Bishop William McKendree. His will, recorded in Sumner County, was executed 24 January 1833 and proved in the May Court 1835. To his friend, Dr. Henry Wilkins of Baltimore County, Maryland, he left his watch. He bequeathed certain legacies to his sisters, Dolly Harris and Nancy D. McKendree, as well as to his brother, James McKendree. To Joshua Soule (who became one of the greatest Methodist figures in history) he left all his manuscripts and papers to be disposed of as he, with assistance of Thomas L. Douglass may deem most expedient. Bishop McKendree owned land in Illinois which he devised to the Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church in trust; and to establish a literary institute for the benefit of the Illinois and Missouri Conference. To his friend, Josh T. Ellison, Esq., of Davidson County, Tennessee, "my portfolio". To friend, M. R. W. Hill of Nashville, "my blacked cane and silver seal". He also made a bequest to his friend Elijah Boddie of Sumner County; he appointed Joshua Soule, James McKendree, Joseph T. Elliston, M. R. M. Hill and Elijah Boddie executors. The will was witnessed by Elijah Boddie, John Carr, V. M. McKendree, P. W. Martin and was proved by Harris Odum, Dempsey Ashford, John Carr, James Stratton as the securities. (12)

I am told that a number of Bishop McKendree's manuscripts are still available in the rare collection of the Methodist Library in Nashville, Tennessee.

It was people such as these, with their families, who settled and built from a wilderness Sumner County, with its beautiful, ancestral homes and aristocratic Southern atmosphere. It was such patriots as these who established the principles and the code by which their descendants have lived, fought for and if need be, died for.

Hardly had the first settlement gained a foothold in the

region of Sumner County until the Deshas, the Bledsoes, and others pitched their stake among them.

Robert Desha was there, at least six years before Tennessee became a state, 1796. In 1789 the record shows that in that year Abraham Sanders sold Robert Desha a negro slave. (13)

The progenitor of the Desha family died at the place he loved so well, leaving a will,in which he named his children, as follows:

"IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN; I, Robert Desha of Sumner County and State of Tennessee being weak in body of sound and disposing mind and memory knowing the certainty of death and the uncertainty of the time thereof do make ordain publish and declare this is and for my Last Will and Testament in manner and form following, that is to say - I assign my soul to God who gave it and my body the earth to be decently burried at the discretion of my Executors herein after named and all my just debts, if any I have, and funeral charges are paid I give and bequeath as follows:
Item .. I give and bequeath to my son John Desha one thousand dollars in cash and no more of my estate real or personal.
Item. I give and bequeath to my son Joseph Desha one hundred dollars in cash to purchase a suit of mourning and no more of my estate real or personal.
Item. I give and bequeath to my son James Desha five hundred dollars in cash and my negro man called Daniel; but in case my said son James who lives at a great distance from me should not have an opportunity to receive said negro man Daniel then and in that case it is my will and pleasure that my Executors should pay him five hundred dollars in lieu of said negro and no more of my estate real or personal.
Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Nancy Killgore one hundred dollars in cash to purchase a suit of mourning and during her natural life the services of my negro girl Kit, which, negro girl Kit and her offspring I give to and bequeath to my grandson John Drummond his heirs and assigns; but he is not to have the possession of them until the decease of his Mother Nancy Killgore.
Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Nelly Cocke my negro man Ned his wife Bedoniu and all her children and one hundred dollars in cash to purchase a suit of mourning and no more of my estate real or personal.
Item. I give and bequeath to my daughter Pheby Bunton her heirs and assigns my negro man called Dick, my negro woman named Crit and all her children and one hundred dollars in cash to purchase her a suit of mourning and no more of my estate real or personal.
Item. I give to my sons Robert Desha and Benjamin Desha in trust for my daughter Polly Reese and not for their own use

my negro woman Alice and my negro woman Nance and all her children, and it is my express will and desire that my said daughter Polly Reese shall have the benefit of the services of the said negroes at the discretion of the Trustees here named during her covetures but in case she becomes a widow then and in that case it is my Will and desire that the said negroes with their increase shall be immediately delivered to my said daughter Polly Reese as her own property free from embonement but in case she dies before her husband Charley Reese then it is my will and desire that the said negroes should be equally divided with their increase amongst all her children share and share alike as they respectively become of full age. I also give and bequeath to my said daughter Polly Reese one hundred dollars in cash to purchase a suit of mourning at my decease, and no more of my estate real or personal.

Item. I give to my sons Robert Desha and Benjamin Desha in trust for my daughter Betsy Dowell and not for their own use, my negro woman Suck and all her children and it is my express will and desire that my said daughter Betsy Dowell shall have the benefit of the services of the said negroes at the discretion of the Trustees just named so long as she remains in this Sumner County, and in case she becomes a widow it is my express will and desire that the said negroes with their increase shall, be immediately delivered to my said daughter Betsy Dowell as her own property free from all embasement but in case she dies before her husband Benjamin Dowell, then and in that case it is my will and desire that the said negroes with their increase shall be equally divided amongst all my said daughter Betsy's children share and share alike as they respectively become of full age. I also give and bequeath to my said daughter Betsy Dowell one hundred dollars in cash to purchase a suit of mourning at my decease.

Item. I give and bequeath to my grandson Iscahel Reese his heirs and assigns my negro boy called George.

Item. I give and bequeath to my sons Robert Desha and Benj. Desha the balance of all in cash I die possessed of after due leash legacies herein before as well as herein after are paid to be equally divided between them share and share alike.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son Robert Desha his heirs and assigns my negro man called Leu and his wife Chat and all his children. The south half of the tract of land whereupon I now live, to be laid off by a line to be drawn east and west through the center of this said tract and to contain three hundred and twenty acres of land more or less, and one thousand dollars in cash and one undivided half of all my lands in the Territory of upper Louisiana and Mississippi Territory.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son Benjamin Desha his heirs and assigns one half of the tract of land where upon I now live to be laid off on the north side of said tract by a line to be drawn east and west through the center of

it, and to contain three hundred and twenty acres more or less one undivided half of all my lands in the Territory of Upper Louisiana and Mississippi Territory. My two negro men Claack and Isaac my negro woman Hannah and all her children; all my stock of horned cattle, horses, and hogs all my farming utensils and household furniture of every description, including beds and bedding and all the rest and residue of my estate of what kind or nature so ever not here in divided before.
Lastly, I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint my son Robert Desha and my confidential friend James Winchester, Executors, of this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking and annulling all former wills by me heretofore made ratifying and confirming this and only this as and for my last Will and Testament. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 6th day of May in the year of Our Lord 1816. (In the presence of us, the subscribing witnesses, Robert Desha the Testator.)
Signed sealed and published
declared the foregoing ROBERT DESHA (Seal)
as and for his Last Will
and Testament, In testimony whereof in the Testators presence and at his request and in the presence of each other we have hereto subscribed our names,
J. W. Winchester
Will Cage
G. D. Blackmore

State of Tennessee, Sumner County Court, November Term 1816. The last Will and Testament of Robert Desha decd was produced in court for probate and said will was duly proved by the oath of J. W. Winchester, William Cage, and Geo. D. Blackmore subscribing witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded. At the same time Robert Desha and James Winchester, Executors, named in said will appeared in court and qualified as such by taking the oath prescribed by law. And thereupon said Executors with Geo. D. Blackmore and Will Cage their securities entered into and acknowledged their bond to the Governor in the sum of two thousand dollars conditioned as the law directs". (14)

The will confirms the close friendship between General James Winchester and Robert Desha. This was the same General James Winchester who was born at White Level, Maryland, February 6, 1752. After receiving a liberal education, in May 1776 he was appointed a Lieutenant in the Third Maryland in the War of Independence. He was taken prisoner by the British and held until 1780 when he was exchanged. After the close of the war he moved to Tennessee and settled in Sumner County on Bledsoe's Creek where he owned a large body of valuable land. His home, "Cragfont", built about 1798, is still standing and is now a Shrine. His military experience linked with his education, made him invaluable in repelling the attacks of the Indians. He directed the

scouts and spies, and frequently accompanied troops in their pursuits of the enemy. He was a member of the Territorial General Assembly of 1794, and Speaker of the first State Senate in 1796.

In the War of 1812 he was commissioned a Brigadier-General, and placed in command of one wing of the Northwestern army.

After the death of Robert Desha his family scattered in many directions -- north, south, east and west -- where descendants may be found to this day.

There are very few by the name Desha left in Middle Tennessee today. Although Robert Desha left a numerous family most of them, especially the sons, migrated to other states, and the daughters have been lost track of, in many cases due to change of their names by marriage.

We shall now discuss the descendants of Robert Desha and wife Eleanor (Wheeler) Desha. I shall not take them in the order of their birth, because I will be telling more of some of them than of others.

James Desha, the son of Robert and Eleanor, was born in Monroe County, Pennsylvania; the exact date is incertain. He seems to be identical with a James Desha who settled in Catachoula Parish, Louisiana, in 1812 from Tennessee and there died in 1834. He married in Davidson County, Tennessee, October 26, 1806 Lucy (or Lucinda) Lockett. (15) In the family records it is given Lucinda but in the marriage record it is shown as Lucy. She was a native of Tennessee according to the census enumerations and other information. I do not have the exact date of her death but descendants say she died the same year as her husband. This would be about 1834. Among the issue of this branch of the family was Robert L. Desha, born 1804 died 1870, who, I think, has descendants in the vicinity of Extension, Louisiana, at this time. (16)

John Desha, son of Robert and Eleanor (Wheeler) Desha, was born in Pennsylvania, very likely in the same home as his brothers, Joseph and James. He died in 1831. About 1790 he wed Rebeccka Overfield, born 1764 and died 1834. John and Rebeccka had a son-in-law, John William Graves, born 1793 died 1850, who married about 1820 Elizabeth Desha, born 1805 died 1881. (17) He very likely died in Bourbon County, Kentucky where he left a will.

Nancy Desha, daughter of Robert and Eleanor (Wheeler) Desha, married first a Mr. Drummond. This is evidenced in the will of her father where he refers to his "grandson John Drummond", until the decease of his mother Nancy Killgore. (18) The second husband of Nancy Desha, the widow

Drummond, was Robert Killgore. Robert Kilgore was not a son of Captain Thomas Kilgore who came early to the Red River Country near where the Desha family settled, but possibly a close relative.

It is possible that Robert was a grandson. This genealogist has not made a study of the Kilgore family, so cannot state definitely the relationship between Captain Thomas and Robert Kilgore.

In the spring of 1778 Captain Thomas Kilgore left North Carolina with some salt, a few grains of corn, and ammunition, to establish a claim somewhere; traveling on foot through the East Tennessee mountains, plowing into the wilderness beyond, guided by the sun and North star, he stopped in the heart of what is now Middle Tennessee. In Captain Kilgore's first year of adventure he lived in a cave, entered it by a stream of water which flowed then and cleared his tracks from the Indians. There he lived alone, subsisting on wild game until he harvested his crop. In the autumn he returned to North Carolina with corn that he had raised on this new land, thus proving his claim. The following spring he returned to the cave, bringing his family and others, and establishing a colony or fort at the middle fork of Red River in sight of where Cross Plains was later established. Here he lived his life a land owner, and sleeps in peace and honor. Captain Kilgore lived, it is said, to be one hundred and five years old, leaving a considerable family. (19)

There were Kilgores in Kentucky in the same section that some of the Desha family settled; these may be the family intermarried with the Desha family.

Of Nelly Desha I know but little, except that she married a Mr. Cocke before the execution of her father's will.

Mary (Polly) Desha came to Sumner County, Tennessee as a child, where she married September 18, 1789, James Reese (sometimes spelled Ruse).(20) James Desha was the bondsman. This couple had at least one son, named Israel (Isachel) Reese, mentioned in his grandfather's will.

Elizabeth (Betsy) Desha, according to her father's will, married Benjamin Dowell. Little more is known of her, or her possible family.

Benjamin Desha, son of Robert and Eleanor (Wheeler) Desha, married in Sumner County, Tennessee, Talitha Stams, on May 31, 1819. Ashel W. Reece was the bondsman. (21)

Phoebe (Pheby) Desha, daughter of Robert and Eleanor (Wheeler) Desha, was born in Pennsylvania or possibly enroute to Tennessee (then North Carolina) 1780 to 1784, the

exact month and day are not certain. The 1850 census of Logan County, Kentucky, shows her as born in Tennessee. Since her marriage is not found on record in Sumner County, Tennessee, nor in Logan County, Kentucky, as well as some other of the nearby counties which had been organized at that time, it is quite possible that she was married in Simpson County, Kentucky. The records of this county have been destroyed. The records of Robertson County, Tennessee have also been destroyed for that period. Her marriage evidently took place about 1805-6. She took for her husband Joseph Bunton, and is mentioned in her father's will as Phobe Bunton. (See Bunton Family.)

Robert Desha, the son of Robert and Eleanor (Wheeler) Desha, is claimed to have been born in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, removed to Virginia, then to Kentucky, and subsequently to Sumner County, Tennessee, near Gallatin, at a place called Bledsoe's Lick, where he resided many years. Robert Desha married first Ellen (Nellie) Shelby, daughter of David Shelby of Sumner County, and granddaughter of Colonel Anthony Bledsoe. His second wife was a sister of his first wife. They divorced. Mr. Desha married thirdly Mrs. Ellen (Porter) Porter.

David Shelby, Ellen's father, was born in 1763 in Washington County, Virginia and died March 11, 1822 in Sumner County, Tennessee, married 1781 Sarah Bledsoe, born 1763 in Virginia and died March 11, 1852 in Sumner County. David Shelby was a soldier in the 10th Regiment which Isaac Shelby commanded at the Battle of King's Mountain. Though only a land of seventeen years, he was a hero at that battle.(22) David Shelby was the father of eleven children, namely: John,born May 24, 1785, married Anna M. Mimmick; 2. Anthony born January 15, 1789, married Marion Winchester;3. Phillip born March 7, 1791; 4. Priscilla, born March 8, 1793, married first Henry L. Douglass; 5. Lucinda, born March 24, 1795; 6. James, born July 13, 1797; 7. Nellie, born January 14, 1799, married Robert Desha; 8. David, born July 15, 1801; 9. Orville, born January 21, 1803, married Caroline Winchester;10. Sarah, born January 21, 1806, married Dr. Thomas Fears; and 11. Albert, born May 25, 1808. (23)

The story of General (Captain) Robert Desha is itself one of outstanding interest. He became a very wealthy man -- and resided on his stock farm near Gallatin, near the place where he grew to manhood and where his parents were buried. General Desha also owned land in Mobile, Alabama. He was a member of Congress, and an intimate friend of President Andrew Jackson.

General Desha served in the War of 1812 as Captain of the 24th Infantry, U.S.A. -- 12 March 1812, honorably discharged, 15 June 1815; Was brevetted Major for service in the attempt to capture "Fort Mcknew", 4 August 1814, and

promoted Brigadier-Major in the following October. He was Congressman from Tennessee 4 December 1827 to 3 March 1831; afterwards he was a merchant in Mobile, Alabama, and was Captain of Independent Company of Alabama Volunteers, U. S. Volunteers in the Mexican War 1846-1848. (24)

Following General Jackson through the War of 1812 and subsequently taking an active part through the first campaign of Jackson for the presidency, General Desha found himself deeply involved in politics. After serving in the Congress, Robert Desha declined to run again; took the stump for ex-Governor William Hall and denounced the Secretary's Lady, Peggy Eaton, as an "Abandoned" woman. A supporter of Hall's opponent running on a pro-Margaret platform invited Desha to a "fist" fight. Desha won the fight, and Hall the election. (25)(26)

The notorious "Peggy Eaton" was the wife of John W. Eaton, Jackson's Secretary of War.

In his Life of Andrew Jackson Marquis James says that "General Jackson had found his numerous family connections, and for that matter a large part of Tennessee, divided over the propriety of his defense of Mrs. Eaton. 'Peggy' was an issue of the Congressional Campaign in the blue-blooded Gallatin district northeast of Nashville.

"As far as serious history is concerned, Peggy O'Neal Eaton might long since have been forgotten had she not been so inescapably identified with the turbulent days when Andrew Jackson wrested the presidency of the Unites States from firmly entrenched eastern political powers. She --- beautiful, tempestuous Peggy O'Neal --- had become a symbol of that stormy period and no historian who contemplates the scene can ignore her influence upon national affairs. Jackson's first cabinet was forced to resign because of her and countless careers were either wrecked or built in the attendant upheavel. Not only were the fortunes of Van Buren advanced and those of John C. Calhoon, Henry Clay and others dashed to defeat, but the entire character of Jackson's administration was changed. Political differences, which under other circumstances might have been compromised, flamed into violent personal animosities, and with the creation of another cabinet, new men with new policies came into power. As for the Deshas and many other aristocratic families, they would have none of her; so they snubbed her socially, even at the cost of their friendship with President Jackson. (27)

Not too much is known of the second wife of General Desha. They did not remain together for a long period of time. Both the Misses Shelby were possibly born at "Spencer's Choice", in Sumner County where the Shelby family resided. Nellie (Ellen) Shelby, the first wife, was born January 14, 1799, at that place. More will be said of the

Shelby family's ancestry later in our story in connection with the Bledsoe family.

The third wife of General Desha was Mrs. Ellen (Porter) Porter. She was the daughter of James Porter and wife Eliza, according to an old family Bible. (28) Mrs. Eliza Porter, mother of Ellen, was before her first marriage Miss Eliza (Elizabeth) Paul. James Porter was probably much older than Elizabeth Paul. They married 29 January 1809 in Nelson County, Kentucky. (29) After the death of James Porter, the widow married 13 September 1821 in Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee, Robert Farquharson, born at Banff, Scotland 1776; Farquharson resided for a time in Montgomery County, Tennessee, but in 1813 removed to Nashville and resided there until his death 23 June 1856. Mrs. Eliza Farquharson died in Nashville 7 May 1864. She left issue by both her marriages. By Mr. Porter she had Rebecca, Nathaniel, Eliza, Josephine, Mary and Ellen.

The tombstone of Robert Farquharson, in the Old City Cemetery at Nashville, reads: "Robert Farquharson, born in Banff, Scotland. Died in Nashville, June 23, 1856, in the 80th year of his age". (30)

Robert Farquharson was quite a figure during his residence in Nashville; as early as 1813 he served on the jury in Davidson County. (31)

Mr. Farquharson became guardian for the Porter children in April 1830. (32) The record states Petition of R. Farquharson, guardian & c. "On petition of Robert Farquharson stating and representing to the court that he is Guardian of the infants, children of James Porter deceased, and husband of the widow of said James that the said heirs own in the town of Nashville a certain lot in the town which is to be potioned by his said widow, now in possession of said widow, has a dower interest that he wishes to erect on said lot two frame offices at his own expense but is unwilling to do so unless this court will order that he may be allowed at any time to remove said offices. Said Robert states that he will account satisfactorily to this court annually for any rents which may legetametly (?) belong to said infants growing out of said lot. The court therefore grants said petition and order that said Robert Farquharson may have the privilege of removing such offices as he may erect on the ground aforesaid wherever he may think proper to do so or be legally required to surrender the possession of said lot .... April Session 1830. May 5, 1830." (33)

The will of Eliza Farquharson is recorded in Davidson County. (34) Mrs. Eliza Farquharson made an agreement with R. J. Farquharson January 7, 1856 settling certain properties after the death of her husband Robert Farquharson. (35)

The will of Robert Farquharson and the inventory of his estate are matters of record. In his will he states he is nearly 70 years of age and in good mind. His beloved wife was to have estate for life. (Lot No.37 front on College Street, including the family house with both frame offices.) Lot No.144 and lots Nos.145-146-147 of five acres pasture, each in the plan of the McNairy Manson House, Lot. No.24, public Square of Nashville. He refers to his son Robert James Farquharson and to his brother Charles Farquharson of Baltimore, Maryland, in case the son should die before his mother and "my brother to have one sixth part and one part to widow of my deceased brother John Farquharson of Bogarrow Banffshire, Scotland, one sixth to my nephew James Farquharson of Baltimore; One sixth to my nephew Robert James Farquharson of Baltimore; one sixth to my nephew Robert James Farquharson, son of Lieutenant Colonel Peter Farquharson of Jamacia, West Indes. One sixth to my step-son Nathaniel Porter of Henry County, Tennessee. One sixth to Felix F. Porter son of said Nathaniel Porter of Henry County Tennessee, and one sixth to my beloved grand-daughter Josephine Porter." The will was written 29 Sept. 1849. (36)

Elihu S. Hall and Robert Farquharson two of the commissioners appointed by an order of the proceeding court to settle with James A. Porter executor of Alexander Porter decd make report which is recorded. (37)

Nathaniel Porter of Henry County, Tennessee and Robert Farquharson of Davidson County, in a deed regarding undivided one-third part of lot No.37 in Nashville which said Nathaniel is one of the heirs of his father James Porter, deceased, where said James resided at time of his death.(38)

The children of James Porter and Eliza, his wife, as shown in the family Bible and other family papers, were: Rebecca, born December 1, 1810, Sheppardsville, Kentucky, married M. H. Howard; Nathaniel Porter, born in Nashville, Tennessee, December 15, 1812, reared by his uncle in Henry County, Tennessee; Eliza Porter, born in Nashville, October 14, 1816; Josephine, born February 8, 1818 in Nashville, several months after her father's death; Mary, whose birth is not certain but died in fancy; and Ellen, born 1815 in Nashville. (39)

Ellen Porter united the families of Porter and Desha through her marriage with General Robert Desha.

Ellen Porter is recorded as Eleanor Porter in the family Bible. (40) She died at Atlantic City, New Jersey, at the cottage of her daughter, Josephine (Porter) Cope, 23 May 1889. Married first 29 August 1835 "General Young J. Porter, of Columbia, Maury County, Tennessee" afterwards of Natchez, Mississippi. He was a lawyer, and was United States Consul to the Republic of Texas, at Houston. A large

fine-looking man according to papers and notes of M. H. Howard. (41) He died in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1838 of yellow fever while returning home from Texas, where he had suffered disappointment in claims to lands. He was buried in a tomb in the Protestant Burying Ground (Odd Fellow's Rest Cemetery) New Orleans.

After General Porter's death his widow, Mrs. Ellen (Eleanor) (Porter) Porter, married secondly at New Orleans, Sunday, 25 April 1847, General Robert Desha of Gallatin, Sumner County, Tennessee, and Mobile, Alabama, then on leave from service in the Mexican War, born in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, and died in Mobile.(42)

General Young J. Porter and wife Ellen (Eleanor) Porter were the parents of Josephine Porter, born 16 February 1837 Columbia, Maury County, Tennessee, and died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 8 March 1896. Her death was caused by progressive pernicious anemia, possibly the remote results of salivation caused by a mistake in a prescription by a Nashville physician when she was a young lady. After her mother's second marriage, she spent much of her life with her grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth (Porter) Farquharson whose husband, Robert Farquharson, was greatly attached to her and treated her with so much kindness that she felt under obligation to his family as long as she retained her mental faculties, which became impaired from anemia after she became a widow. She was educated at many schools in various states and visited Europe; was a student at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, the President of which was Caleb Cope, to whom she was married 21 April 1864. She had refused an offer of marriage from Felix K. Zollicoffer, afterwards Brigadier-General C.S.A., and had blamed herself as having been responsible for his entering the war. He was killed in action 19 January 1862, at Mill Spring, Kentucky, the first high Confederate officer to lose his life. In later years his daughter, Miss Ridie Zollicoffer, was a frequent guest at the Cope home. Josephine Porter Cope was the mother of Porter Farquharson who furnished much information to this genealogist, and whose letters addressed to me are in my collection of Genealogy. Mr. Cope wrote: "I always thought my mother the most queenly and beautiful woman I had ever seen; she was thought to bear a striking resemblance to portraits of Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots. She was accomplished in music, arts, and elocution; spoke French fluently, and had literary and inventive abilities, and was a gracious hostess, concerning which a tribute is paid to her in the Recollection of Sir Charles West Cope, P.R.A. Her life with my father was very happy, and her devotion to him in his last illness was partly responsible for her subsequent decline in physical and mental health." (43) Her husband, Caleb Cope, was born in Greensburg, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, 18 July 1797; died at his city residence, 718 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 12 May

1888, from illness induced by an attack of gout, ending in pneumonia. He was a merchant, financier and horticulturist at the time of his death, in his 91st year. President of the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society. Bishop Howe, in his funeral address, said: "Without meaning to reflect on anyone now living, it is the simple truth to say that Caleb Cope was the foremost citizen of Philadelphia of his time." (44)

Josephine Porter, wife of Caleb Cope, was a student at Columbia Institute, Columbia, Maury County, Tennessee.

Caleb Cope and Josephine Porter had two children: Caleb Frederick Cope, born 5 August 1865; and Porter Farquharson Cope, born 15 June 1869, who resided in Philadelphia. This is the historian of the Porter-Cope family, and friend of this genealogist.

With further reference to the burial place of General Young J. Porter in New Orleans, the diary of Mrs. M. H. Howard, Book 10, in possession of Mr. P. F. Cope in 1939: "1839, Mar. 23, Went to Protestant Burying Ground and found Young J. Porter's Tomb which is Number 389 -- it is the Vault next to the ground on the upper or S°W side of the burying ground next to the Canel or Basin, at the end of the Bayou St. John, and is the 23rd tomb from the side gate on the Wt. & and is beyond said gate on toward the swamp." (45)

Mrs. M. H. Howard, referred to here, was Rebecca Porter born Dec. 1, 1810, Sheppardsville, Kentucky. She died in New York City, 25 Sept. 1885 and was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Philadelphia. Her home in New York was on LaFayette Place, formerly known as the Canada House, where Mrs. Josephine Cope attended boarding school, known as Madam Canada's. Rebecca spent many years in travel in the United States and Europe, Asia and Africa with her husband. She was the first American woman, so it is said, to climb to the top of the Great Pyramid. She died from cancer of the breast.

Rebecca Porter married in Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee, 11 November 1832, Menucen Howard, born in Granville County, North Carolina, 14 December 1798, and died in Philadelphia at the residence of his wife's niece, Mrs. Cope, 718 Spruce Street.

Colonel and Mrs. Howard both left wills, with legacies to Mrs. Cope and other relatives; he had previously made gifts to Institutions in Nashville, and provided liberally for the families of his old slaves. (46)

Porter Farquharson Howard, the only child of Colonel M.H. Howard and wife Rebecca (Porter) Howard, was born 13 April

1835, and died 10 August 1836, buried in the Old City Cemetery, Nashville, Tennessee, on the same lot on which Eliza Porter Farquharson and Robert Farquharson are buried.(47)

Nathaniel Porter, son of James and wife Eliza (Paul) French Porter, was born in Nashville, Tennessee, December 15, 1812, and was left an orphan when very young and went to live with his relatives in Henry County, Tennessee, at Paris. (48) Nathaniel Porter married Evelina Hagler, daughter of John L. and wife Joycie Johnson Hagler of Henry County. Evelina was born September 22, 1818.(49) John L. Hagler, father of Evelina, was born June 30, 1788 and married Joycie Johnson who was born September 13, 1795. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hagler are buried at Poplar Grove Cemetery in Henry County. The Bible also states that Joycie Johnson was the daughter of Peter Johnson of Henry County, who was interred at Poplar Grove Cemetery.

Nathaniel Porter and Evelina Hagler married about 1834 in Henry County. Mr. Porter died in 1866 and his wife in 1875.

Although left an orphan with little property to start life, Mr. Porter became a business man of note and owned a rather progressive plantation; by shrewd business understanding accumulated more than the average wealth, and left his family in excellent financial standing.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Porter were the parents of a dozen children, namely: F. Frances born May 27, 1835; Felix F. born March 22, 1837; James Nat (Nathaniel) born January 27, 1838; John L., born October 27, 1841; Nathaniel B., born December 31, 1842; E. L., born December 5, 1844; James W. born April 23, 1851, died 1883; Narcissa Eveline born Feb. 22, 1855; Eddy born November 7, 1860; Hattie J., born June 7, 1863; Richard Dealer Fletcher Hafford, born June 25, 1853, died 1883; and G. E., born July 3, 1857. (50) The census and the Bible do not exactly agree on the names of the children.

Dr. Felix Farquharson Porter, son of Nathaniel and Eveline Porter, was a physician and surgeon at Paris, Henry County, Tennessee; and was a Confederate soldier. He married and resided at Paris.

Nathaniel B. Porter, son of Nathaniel and Eveline Porter, was a Confederate soldier. He was a farmer and resided in Henry County.

William L. Porter, son of Nathaniel and Eveline Porter, was a captalist and dealer in livestock at Paris, Henry County. He was also a Confederate soldier.

Eveline, daughter of Nathaniel and Eveline Porter,

married a Mr. Crutchfield, and settled in Bell County, Texas. They had seven or more children.

James W., son of Nathaniel and Eveline Porter, married November 1876 Nellie Thornton of Georgia, who was born in 1853, daughter of DeWitt (Clinton) and Clementine Thornton. They had a family but I do not know their names nor do I know the number in the family.

Narcissa E., daughter of Nathaniel and Eveline Porter, married a Mr. Atkins. She survived her husband for a number of years. I think their family consisted of three sons and one daughter. This family resided in Paris, Henry County, Tennessee.

John L. Porter, son of Nathaniel and Eveline Porter, was wounded at Shiloh, Hardin County, Tennessee, 6 April 1862, while serving as a Confederate soldier.

George E., son of Nathaniel and Eveline Porter, was a farmer. In 1883 he was living in McKenzie, Tennessee. He may have removed to Texas with his family. Contact lost. (51)

Mrs. Eleanor (Ellen) Porter Porter married secondly at New Orleans, Louisiana, General Robert Desha of Gallatin, Sumner County, Tennessee and Mobile, Alabama. It has already been stated that the beautiful and talented Josephine Porter refused a proposal of marriage from Felix K. Zollicoffer, who afterwards became Brigadier-General in the Confederate States Army, had blamed herself as having been responsible for his having entered the war. He was killed in action the 19th of January 1862 at Mill Spring, Kentucky. The Federal forces were gathered at Cairo, Illinois and at Louisville, Kentucky, and were prepared to break through the Confederate lines. November 7, 1861 General Grant of the Federal Army tried to capture a part of General Polk's forces, which had crossed the river from Columbus to Belmont. Grant was defeated and went back to Cairo. January 19, 1862 General Thomas of the Federal Army defeated General Zollicoffer's army at Mill Spring, near Cumberland Gap. Zollicoffer was killed and Cumberland Gap was lost.(52) Zollicoffer was a politician and newspaper editor before entering the military service. One writer penned: " ... Felix Kirk Zollicoffer, boss and 'kingmaker' of the powerful Whig party in Tennessee in 1852 ... " (53)

Zollicoffer was a native of Maury County, Tennessee, of Swiss descent. He began his newspaper career at Paris, Henry County. He later was editor of the Republican Banner, the official Whig organ in the state, located in Nashville. He had been the master-mind of the successful campaign of Lean Jimmy Jones against James Knox Polk, a Democrat, for Governor of Tennessee. In 1852 the Republican Banner supported General Winfield Scott for President, while the Nashville Union was supporting the Democratic nominee, Franklin Pierce. General Scott was known by the nickname

of "Old Fuss and Feathers".

John Leake Marling, editor of the Union, was an aggressive political writer, and on August 20, 1852, at the height of the campaign, he wrote a very strong statement about the Banner and its candidates. This made the fiery Zollicoffer ready for any kind of retaliation since reference to the popular Zollicoffer was anything except complimentary.

Zollicoffer took down his dueling pistols. It was not long before the real battle began in the heart of downtown Nashville. Marling fired first, and missed. Zollicoffer pulled the trigger, but his old-fashioned duelling pistol failed to fire. They prepared another round and soon shots were heard again, and Marling fell seriously wounded in the face. The two men later became close friends. The next year Zollicoffer was elected to Congress where he served three terms. Marling, having recovered from his wounds, became United States Minister to Guatemala.

Eight years later Zollicoffer entered the Confederate service. (53)

Caroline Desha, daughter of Robert Desha and wife Nellie (Shelby) Desha, married Hindman Barney, son of Commodore Barney of Baltimore, Maryland. I am quite familiar with the Barney family of Baltimore who intermarried with the Stanburys of Baltimore and the Dew family of Essex County, Virginia. In 1930 the Barneys, Stanburys and Dews figured prominently in a long litigation caused by the peculiar will of the wealthy and eccentric Ella E. Von Wendel of New York City. I was one of the genealogists who assisted the law firm of Thompson, Koss and Warren of New York to establish the rightful heirs to a goodly portion of the Wendel Estate, much of which had been willed to a cat-and-dog hospital.

Caroline Desha Barney married secondly Lloyd Abbott of a Boston, Massachusetts family. Her son, Hindman Barney, married twice, having a daughter by each wife. Hindman Barney was something of a genius, but unbalanced. He lost an arm in a brawl with a fellow-actor who attacked him with an axe; was a dipsomaniac, with spells of delirium tremens; was at times a temperance lecturer. His first wife's family had a stock-farm in New York State -- they were theatrical people. After the divorce from his first wife, he married a lady who, I think, was from Brooklyn. There was a daughter, Violett Barney, by his first wife who filled theatrical engagements in Philadelphia. By his last wife he had a daughter, Ethel Barney, who was musically inclined.

Phoeba Ann Desha, daughter of Robert Desha by wife Nellie

Shelby, married Murray Smith of Virginia, and had Armide Smith who married Baron Fontenilliat. They divorced. Mary Virginia, called "Genny" Smith, another daughter, married first Fernando Yznaga (Antonio Yznaga de Valle) of Ravenswood, Louisiana, son of Don Ignacio Yznaga de Valle of Cuba; married secondly William George Tiffney of New York. The first marriage bore Consuela Yznaga, who married William Drego Montague, born in London 1876, Lord Mandeville, 9th Duke of Manchester. They had Alexander George Francis Montague, born 2 October 1902, Viscount Mandeville, married Miss Zimmerman (?) of Cincinnati, Ohio. They had issue, but I do not have their names. Another child of Mary Virginia by Yznaga was a daughter who married Lord Lister-Kaye. Emily Yzgana, another daughter, married ——— Stewart, a milliner of Paris, France, and I think had Antonia Yznaga Stewart, who married Susan B. Sturgis of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and had issue. Mary Virginia (Genny) Smith was divorced from Fernando Yznaga; and he married secondly Mabel Wright, afterwards Countess Bela of Austria. Alva Smith, daughter of Phoebe Ann Desha and her husband Murray Smith, married first William K. Vanderbilt, and secondly, Oliver H. P. Belmont. The issue of the first marriage: Alva, William K., Jr., Murial, Harold,Consulo (who first married in 1895 Charles Richard John Spencer-Churchill, born in Simla, India, 9th Duke of Marlborough; married secondly in 1921 Lt. Colonel Jacque Balsam, C.M.G.). (54)

Julia Desha, the third child of Robert Desha and Nellie (Shelby) his wife, married George de Forrest, of New York City. After his death she entered a convent in Paris, France, and died there. Left no issue. Her share of General Desha's fortune entailed to Mrs. Caleb Cope, of Philadelphia, or probably to her half sister (Mrs. Cope's half sister), but went by mistake to the Roman Catholic Archbishop of New York and was never recovered. In a letter from William K. Vanderbilt to Mr. Caleb Cope is stated that the family had lost all knowledge of the whereabouts of Julia Desha. Mr. P. F. Cope, of New Jersey, wrote this author that his aunt should have received about $60,000.00 plus compound interest for eighteen years. She did not know of the fact until one day, sitting on the porch of the hotel at Asbury Park, New Jersey, she heard a stranger, a Brooklyn attorney, tell a group of men that one of his important cases was depending on finding the heiress, Emma Delette Desha. She walked over to the group and said, "I am Emma Delette Desha". Julia Desha's bond was still unsatisfied in the court in Alabama (it is said Mobile). (55)

Robert Desha, Jr. (called Bob), son of General Robert and Nellie (Shelby) Desha, married a girl from near the Alabama plantation, who was described as being very beautiful.

David Desha and Andrew Desha, sons of General Robert and Nellie (Shelby) Desha, died in fancy.

By the third wife, Ellen Porter, General Robert Desha had seven children. Emma Delette Desha was born in Mobile, Alabama, 22 February 1847. She was named after her grandmother, Emma Delette (daughter of Judge Delette of Mobile) who married Judge Gibbons of Montgomery, Alabama. Emma Delette Desha died at Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, 11 December 1911. She married first, while visiting Mrs. Caroline (Desha) Abbott in Brooklyn, New York, George Deffendorf. George Deffendorf was of New York City or Brooklyn, and had previously been divorced. Emma Delette Desha married as her second husband, 15 March 1869, Henry Cochran of Philadelphia, who was born January 1, 1837 (?), son of William C. Cochran who married a Miss Travis, a sister of Lady Erskine, and left a fortune of several million dollars. Henry Cochran was also divorced. He had three daughters by his second wife. He was a lawyer by education, and a wine merchant of the firm of Cochran & Goddard, established by his father. He died at his residence, 3511 Baring Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 2, 1902; was buried in Woodland Cemetery. His second wife, I think, was a Miss Joly.

Emma Delette Desha married for her third husband George Edward Coolidge, whose mother was a Steirmetz, lived to a great age, had a brother William; was a member of the distinguished New England family of that name. He was for many years superintendent of a gold mine near King's Mountain, North Carolina. Divorced.

The last husband of Emma Delette Desha was Alexander Elliott, who was divorced from his first wife by whom he had a daughter. He was superintendent for the Pennsylvania Railroad at Huntingdon, Pennsylvania. Mr. Elliott was born 25 November 1835 and lived to an advanced age, surviving by several years his second wife, Emma Delette Desha Elliott. Mrs. Emma D. Elliott had issue by all her husbands except the last one. All her husbands were from distinguished families.

The issue which I have of Emma Delette Desha is possibly incomplete, but I shall note the information at hand. George (Ellwood) Deffendorf took the name of Coolidge; and died suddenly in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania when about twelve years of age, when some unknown malady was an epidemic. This was about 1881.

Henry Cochran, born at Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, 31 August 1870, became a broker, and was married by Archbishop Patrick John Ryan 2 or 7 of March 1897, to Emilie G. Fetherston, born 1872 (?), daughter of one of the proprietors of The Evening Bulletin. The last information: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cochran, Jr. resided at the Lexington Hotel, New York City. They did not have any children that I know of.

Mrs. Emilie G. (Fetherston) Cochran's sister, Hannah M.

Fetherston, married Philip Syng Physic Randolph, a cousin of Mrs. P. E. Cope of Philadelphia, and a descendant of Philip Syng, Jr., silversmith, who made the ink-stand used at the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Another sister of Mrs. Emilie G. Fetherston Cochran married into the Storry family, hotel managers, who conducted the Plaza Hotel, New York City, the Royal Ponciana, Palm Beach, Florida, the hotel at White Sulphur Springs, Virginia and the Bryn Mawn Hotel near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Alfred Getze Coolidge born September 1, 1874, son of Emma Delette Desha and her husband, married Mrs. Rose (Boswell) ——— , a widow. They had one child that I know of, Milton Desha Coolidge, born 31 August 1896, who was connected with Bioren & Company, bankers in Philadelphia.

George William Childs Coolidge (or George Ellwood Coolidge), son of Emma Delette Desha and her husband, was born 17th of March 1878, and married a Southern girl. They had one child, I think.

Robert Desha Coolidge, son of Emma Dellette Desha and her husband, died young.

William Bioren (or Byron) and Josephine Porter Cope Coolidge, children of Emma Delette Desha by her Coolidge husband, both died young. (56)

Joseph Desha, son of Robert Desha and wife Eleanor (Wheeler) Desha, was born in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, December 9, 1768. He married in Sumner County, Tennessee, December 31, 1789, Margaret (Peggy) Bledsoe. He died in Georgetown, Kentucky, October 11, 1842. Margaret (Peggy) Bledsoe was born in Washington County, Virginia, July 7, 1773 and died at Georgetown, Kentucky, May 20, 1849. Both are buried in Georgetown.

Joseph Desha lived at various times in Sumner County, Tennessee and in Mason, Harrison and Scott Counties in Kentucky. He found his last resting place in Georgetown, where a monument erected by the State Legislature of Kentucky marks the spot.

In 1781 Joseph Desha moved with his parents to Kentucky, settling in Fayette County for a short time before moving on into the Bledsoe Lick community down in Sumner County, Tennessee. Here in the neighborhood of his father and family he remained until about 1792 or 1793 when he returned to Kentucky, settling in Mason County.

In 1794 when the Indian wars were causing the settlers much concern, and something had to be done about it, Joseph Desha served under General Anthony Wayne and General William

H. Harrison. In 1794 Joseph Desha volunteered under General Wayne and served with distinction in his campaign against the Indians. Indeed at the early age of fifteen, and between that age and twenty-two, he took an active part in various skirmishes with the foe, who at that period in the early history of the West, proved so fatal an annoyance to the settlers. In one of these skirmishes he had the misfortune to lose two of his brothers, who were killed in Tennessee; an event which no doubt stimulated his courage and greatly excited his vengeance against the perfidious enemy. His gallant bearing as a soldier, and amiable qualities as a man, rendered him justly popular with the people, and for nine years previous to 1806 he represented the County of Mason in the State Legislature. (57)

After a brilliant military career, Joseph Desha returned to his farm in 1797. From 1799 to 1802 he was elected to the State House of Representatives. In 1802 he was elected to the State Senate, serving until 1807 in which year he was elected as a Democrat to the Tenth and to the five succeeding United States Congresses, serving from March 4, 1807, until March 3, 1819. (58)

While in Congress he acted with the Republican party, and was devotedly zealous in the prosecution of all such measures as were calculated in his judgment to advance the interest and glory of the nation. He was a warm supporter of the War of 1812, and in 1813 accepted a commission as Major-General of Volunteers, and was present with his division in the battle of Thames. (59)

In the year 1824 he was elected Governor of Kentucky and served the usual term of four years. His opponents were Christopher Tomkins and Colonel William Russell. His administration of the State government was efficient and vigorous. At the expiration of his term in office, he retired from public life and lived on his Harrison County farm until his death. (60)

John D. Shane, in an interview with Patrick Scott near North Middletown, Bourbon County, Kentucky, said: "General John Adair and Gov. (Joseph) Desha were Confederates of Burr", meaning I presume Aaron Burr.(61)

December 4, 1827 Governor Desha, in his annual message, notifies the Legislature that the public expenditures for the ensuing year are estimated at $143,283; and that in consequence of the assessments being made at speci value, the depreciation in value of the Commonwealth bank paper, in which the taxes are paid, the falling off of the profits of said bank, and other causes, there would probably be a deficit in the treasury of $39,283. He recommended the investment of school funds then in the bank of the Commonwealth, the proceeds of the sales of vacant lands, the state stock

in said bank, and in the bank of Kentucky, and all other funds which can be raised otherwise than by directly taxing the people, be invested in building a turnpike from Maysville to Lexington, from Lexington through Frankfort to Louisville, from Frankfort or Louisville toward Nashville, and other roads; and that the dividends from these roads be "forever sacredly devoted to the interests of education". (62)

A portrait of Governor Desha, painted for Delaplaine's Gallery, was in possession of one of his descendants some years back. (63)

Much more could be written of the career of this great man of yesterday. His name and life stand as a symbol of integrity, honesty and bravery, not only among his descendants but in the hearts and minds of Kentuckians and Tennesseans alike. He was faithful to the people of his State, and fair to those with whom he found it necessary to differ. (64)

There is much to be said of Margaret (Peggy) Bledsoe who became the wife of Governor Joseph Desha in Sumner County, Tennessee, December 31, 1789. (65) She was the daughter of Colonel Isaac Bledsoe and wife Katherine (Montgomery) Bledsoe. More will be said of her parents in another chapter. Margaret moved from Southwest Virginia with her parents to what is now Sumner County, Tennessee, either in the fall of 1780 or the spring of 1781. Her father came in 1780, but possibly the family did not follow him until the next spring, when Colonel Anthony Bledsoe, with his family and several other families, came to the Cumberland Country.

Margaret (or Peggy, as she was called by her family) was identified with the stirring early events which transpired in Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky. She was one of those pioneer mothers who helped make her State --- a spinner of flax and a weaver of linens, of whom James Lane Allen so eloquently wrote. Her descendants refer with pride to the fact that Mrs. Desha spun the flax and wove the fine linen which her husband wore when a member of Congress. While her husband was filling the office of Chief Executive of the State of Kentucky, she, with rare ability, superintended his affairs at home, they having a large family and a household of servants.

The mother of thirteen children, Mrs. Desha became famed as a notable housekeeper.

After her husband retired from public life, they made a journey by carriage to visit in Tennessee. They visited President Andrew Jackson at the Hermitage, near Nashville, who was a personal and well-beloved friend of them both. (66)

Of the thirteen children born to the union of Joseph Desha and Peggy (Bledsoe) Desha, much can be said.

Their oldest, Benjamin Desha, was born December 24, 1790 in Sumner County, Tennessee. I know but little of this branch of the family; however, I understand there are some very distinguished descendants.

The second child of Joseph and Peggy (Bledsoe) Desha was Rachel, born July 7, 1794 in Mason County, Kentucky. She married December 6, 1814, H. Boswell, of Cynthiana, Kentucky. (67) The Boswells of Scott County, Kentucky, were probably close relatives. George Boswell died in Scott County,leaving a will before 1817. (68)

The next child of Governor and Mrs. Desha was Robert M., born June 20, 1796. He became a member of the United States Marine Corps. He married Frances Ann Drake. After his death, she married Hartwell Boswell, of the Arkansas Territory. They were married July 1, 1829, at the residence of Governor Desha. (69)

Isaac Desha, born January 9, 1798, child of Governor and Mrs. Desha, died before 1802.

Eleanor Desha, born February 20, 1800, probably in Mason County, Kentucky, blossomed into womanhood to become a prominent member of society. She married October 6, 1818 James Chamberlayne Pickett, a native of Fauquier County, Virginia, born February 6, 1793, died July 10, 1872 after a most brilliant career. He was the son of Colonel John and Elizabeth (Chamberlayne) Pickett of Mason County, Kentucky, and was brought to Kentucky when about three years old. James C. Pickett was Secretary of the State of Kentucky under Governor Desha, and afterwards, in 1838, Minister Plenipotentiary to the Columbian Confederation in Equador. In the War of 1812, Mr. Pickett was an officer in the United States Artillery, and as such won a high reputation. From 1818 to 1821 he served in the regular army; then retired and practiced law. For one year he was editor of the Maysville Eagle, a Kentucky newspaper. In 1829 Mr. Pickett served as secretary to the legation at Botoga. He also served as editor of the old Congressional Glove from 1848 until 1853, in Washington, D. C. He was at one time a member of the Kentucky Legislature. We find that in 1835, Mr. Pickett was Commissioner of the Patent Office in Washington D. C.; then for three years was Fourth Auditor of the Treasury. The Honorable James Chamberlayne Pickett died in Washington D. C. July 10, 1872.

While her father was Governor of Kentucky, Mrs. Pickett filled the place of hostess of the executive mansion. She is described as a woman of remarkable culture, dignity, and refinement. Aside from her domestic and social duties, she

found time to instruct her little son, Joseph Desha Pickett, who afterwards referred to the fact that his earliest memories were of the Governor's manson, at his mother's knee, learning to read the Bible. It was during her stay in the mansion that Lafayette visited Kentucky, and this little son carried through a long and useful life the memory of the distinguished General placing his hand on his head and blessing him.

Mrs. Pickett is said to have been equal to every circumstance and occasion that came to her in those responsible times. She was devout, as well as accomplished, and left a record of unaffected piety and devotion to all that was good and true that came within her sphere. She afterwards removed to Washington D. C. where her husband held responsible positions under the Government. There she died, and was buried beside her husband in the Congressional Burial Ground. They had four children -- Joseph Desha Pickett, born January 6, 1822, who graduated from Princeton College in 1841. He then completed his course at Paris, France, and afterwards traveled extensively in Europe, Asia and Africa. Joseph Desha Pickett was a member of the famous Secession Convention of Virginia in 1861. He joined the Confederate Army as a Chaplain and was Captain of the Kentucky Orphan Brigade. Later he was made Chaplain of John C. Breckenridge's Division. He was called the "Fighting Chaplain".

Captain Pickett was at Atlanta throughout the seige, ministering to the sick, wounded and dying. He was the founder of the Kentucky Relief Society, which did so much to alleviate the sufferings of the Southern soldiers. After the close of the War, he was at one time president of the Agricultural, Mechanical and Military College at Lexington. He was professor of English Literature in the Kentucky University for some years; President of the College of Arts in 1877-78, and for a while was President of the Bible College. At one time he filled the chair of Professor of Metaphysics, Ancient and Modern Languages in the Agricultural and Mechanical College, 1878-79. In 1879 he was elected Superintendent of Public Instructions for Kentucky and served in that capacity twelve years. He retired in 1891 and removed with his family to River Forest, near Chicago, Illinois, where his sons were in business. His death came in 1900, at which time he was Chaplain-General, Provisional Department of Northwest, Confederate Veterans. He married Elizabeth Jean Holton. Their children were: James C. Pickett, died unmarried; Eleanor Desha Pickett, unmarried, resided in Chicago, Illinois; William H. Pickett, died unmarried; John Desha Pickett, resided in Atlanta,Georgia; Elizabeth Bacon Pickett; Montgomery B. Pickett, a resident of Chicago; and Annie Glenn Pickett, who died unmarried.

John Desha Pickett, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Jean (Holton) Pickett, married Jessie M. Brownell. They resided

in Atlanta, Georgia. Their children were; Desha Pickett, Cornelia Frances Pickett; Jean Montgomery Pickett; Eleanor Desha Pickett; Jessie Elizabeth Pickett and Montgomery Pickett.

Elizabeth Bacon Pickett, daughter of Joseph Desha and Elizabeth Jean (Holton) Pickett, married Professor A. A. Bruce, who was Dean of the Law Department of the North Dakota University at Grand Forks. They had two children: Glenn Bruce and Edward McMaster Bruce.

Montgomery B. Pickett, son of Joseph Desha and Elizabeth Jean (Holton) Pickett, married Alma Morgan Osborn. They made their home in Chicago. Their children were Catherine Montgomery and Elizabeth Pickett. (70)

Another son of James C. and Eleanor (Desha) Pickett was John T. Pickett, born October 9, 1823. He received his early education in Scott County, Kentucky, after which he received an appointment to the Military Academy at West Point. He afterwards studied law at Lexington Law School. The Honorable John T. Pickett for many years was the United States Consular Agent to Vera Cruz, Mexico, and while there became interested in the "Manifest Destiny" movement along the Gulf, and soon distinguished himself as an active supporter of the principles of the "Ostend Manifesto".

Yielding to his military penchant, he joined Lopez, Crittenden and others in the year 1850 in a crusade upon Cuba and personally commanded in a gallant fight at the battle of Cardenas. The entire expedition was a failure. He was commissioned by Louis Kossuth as General in the Hungarian army. During the Civil War he served with distinction in the Confederate Army as chief-of-staff to General Breckenridge, and represented the Confederate States at the opening contest, as Commissioner to the Republic of Mexico. After the close of the War, General Pickett engaged in the practice of law at Washington D. C. He was an accomplished scholar, a superior linguist, a gentleman of commanding presence and captivating address. He married Katherine Keyworth of Washington D. C. where they both died and are buried. They had two children: Eleanor Desha Pickett, died unmarried; and Theodore John Pickett, who married Sallie V. Harris. He became an attorney practicing in Washington. No known children.

The third and fourth children of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Pickett were Benjamin Montgomery Pickett and Ellen Pickett; the latter died during infancy. (71)

Isaac Bledsoe Desha, born January 1, 1802, son of Governor and Mrs. Desha, was the second child born to them named Isaac, the first having died before the birth of this son. He was probably the one of the thirteen children who gave

his parents more heartache than any of the children and possibly more than all the rest together. He was accused of the murder of Francis Baker whose body was found November 10, 1824, about five miles from Mayslick, Mason County, Kentucky.

Mrs. Claudia L. Warren of Nashville, Tennessee, in a letter to this genealogist, dated December 19, 1963, states: "My mother's great great grandfather she used to tell us about ... ... our mother died in Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 1957 at the age of 89 years of age. She was Frances Ellen Desha before her marriage to Henry Newton Holden. Our dad died so long ago I do not remember him as I was about five or six years of age then. I am fifty seven years old now. My oldest sister in Chattanooga is past seventy years. My other sister, Mae, is past sixty five years of age. So they really remember more than I, But I do know my mother was the last of her family when she passed away. She had twin brothers Hamp and Hamilton DeSha who fought in the army long ago. They wore the Grey uniforms. They were older than mother and are buried in the National Cemetery in Chattanooga. Mother also had brothers named Abe, Walter and the younger of the brother's name was Robert. I believe my mother's dad's name was also Robert, but I am not sure, it is recorded in Hamilton County. I'm sure." "... my mother raised all of us children in Chattanooga, all the older DeSha's there are dead, but we have a number of cousins living there." "... there is one other thing our mother always told us about Governor Desha ... How Governor Desha once saved his own son from the gallows. We don't remember just how, but I believe the son had been charged with horse stealing." "... and I am also proud to know I have the same name as President Johnson's wife has. My full name is Claudia Lynn Holden Warren, born in Chattanooga in the year 1906." (72)

In early days "horse stealing" was the most heinous deed which could be committed. I am glad to say that I can assure this lady that Governor Desha's son was NOT a horse-thief, and that I can authentically banish once and for all a family tradition or legend which insinuates that the President of these United States is closely related to or descended from a horse-thief. The fact is, a member of the family was accused and convicted merely of murder. I have taken particular pains to secure well documented material on this subject. It is true that the life of Governor Desha's son was in jeopardy, but the crime of which he was found guilty was not horse-stealing, but was murder.

That eminent Kentucky historian, Collins, tells us: "1825 Nov. 2. Murder, in Fleming County, about five miles from Mayslick, of Francis Baker, late editor of the Natchez Mississippian, while traveling on horseback to New Jersey to be married."

And again, Collins records: "After several trials, the governor, on June 18, 1827, 'granted a pardon to Isaac B.

Desha, who stood charged in Harrison County, with the murder of Francis Baker', so says the executive Journal." (73)

Governor Desha's pardon of his son did not help him politically and was discussed many years by his enemies. (74)

The Mississippian was the leading newspaper of the State of Mississippi at that time. Along with the Natchez Advertiser it operated during the period of April 1822 and 1824. After Baker's death it changed hands. It was in the house of nearly every intelligent Democrat throughout the country, whatever might be his calling, and exercised an extraordinary influence in moulding public opinion. The paper was owned by Mr. Ethel Barksdale and Mr. J. L. Powers. Barksdale was the chief editor, and Powers the publisher and business manager. The paper continued to operate under the original name until after the War of the Rebellion when it changed to The Clarion and later to the Clarion-Ledger.(75)

Isaac Desha was married in November 1823 in Mason County, Kentucky, to Miss Cornelia Pickett, daughter of Colonel John Pickett, and sister of James Chamberlayne Pickett who married Eleanor Desha, the sister of Isaac B. Desha. Cornelia Pickett was named in Governor Desha's will. (76) so it is evident that Isaac Bledsoe Desha had married before the murder was committed.

There is one story which says that after Governor Desha pardoned his son, Isaac Bledsoe Desha, that young Desha went to the Sandwich Islands (afterwards Hawaii) where Aristides Welch (bondsman for Jefferson Davis) saw him in Honolulu, treated as a social outcast. (77)

Mr. Andrew Forest Muir of Houston, Texas, in an article published in the Filson Club Publication, gives a somewhat detailed story of the life of Isaac B. Desha which runs like this:

"Historical lies are not often cut out of the whole cloth. Usually they build up over a period of time, as one narrator after another adds a mendacious tidbit. Someone eventually collects the parts and arranges them into a symmetrical whole that he then publishes as the heretofore untold story. Isaac B. Desha has been the principle of just such a process.

"In its final perfection the legend of Isaac B. Desha runs to this effect: The son of an early nineteenth century governor of Kentucky, Desha was convicted of murdering a man. Before his father pardoned him (and resigned), he attempted suicide by cutting his throat. Quick action on the part of his jailors saved his life, and thereafter he wore a silver tube through the hole in his throat and spoke in a harsh whisper. Subsequently he went to Texas, and,

after lingering for a while in Stephen F. Austin's colony, accompanied a man named Early to San Antonio. Somewhat later, Desha returned alone to San Felipe de Austin, where he was charged with the murder of Early, whose body and clothing were found east of Gonzales. Again he was sentenced to be hanged, but on the day before the execution, he died. Later it turned out that the coffin over which the funeral rites had been read in reality contained a length of cottonwood log and that Desha had escaped. Years later he turned up in Hawaii, and before he died he married a native wife and fathered a brood of half-white children.

" As in all cases of historical legend, a part of this story is factual, and the other part is the work of untrammeled imagination. And in this case, a third part is the result of misidentification.

"Isaac B. Desha was the son of Margaret Bledsoe and Joseph Desha (1768-1842), who served as governor of Kentucky from 1824 to 1828. The younger Desha first got into the news by his marriage, in the autumn of 1823, to Miss Cornelia Pickett, of Mason County. Shortly thereafter he was to get and to remain in the limelight as the result of a gory murder that came to light. On November 8, 1824, the body of a bald, middle-aged man was found about five miles from Mayslick near the boundary line between Mason and Fleming counties, Kentucky. The throat had been cut from ear to ear, and several large wounds were visible on the head and shoulders. The body was fastidiously dressed and the ruffled Irish linen shirt was marked with the name of Francis Baker. Before its burial, the body was identified as that of Francis Baker, editor of the Natchez Mississippian, who had been passing through on his way to New Jersey. Suspicion fixed on Desha, and though in the bloom of youth -- but a short time married -- of high standing, and greatly beloved by friends and associates, he was bound over for trial in the Fleming County Circuit court. After an extended legal fight of some two years, he was found guilty of the murder and sentenced to be hanged. In June 1827, his father pardoned him, but contrary to the legend the father did not resign; he served out the remainder of his term.

"Seemingly Desha at once left Kentucky. Many years later the story was told that after his pardon, he attempted to rob the skipper of a flatboat tied to the bank of the Mississippi River near Vicksburg. The intended victim turned out to be G. W. Crawford, who recognized Desha and asked him what he meant by trying to rob an old acquaintance. According to the story, Desha broke down and confessed that he had been living the life of an outlaw since his father had pardoned him, and he scarcely cared what he did. Crawford talked to him like a brother, and begged him to reform and to not further disgrace his family. Desha listened to his friend's advise, and upon Crawford's invitation he continued

on the boat to New Orleans as his guest. Before he reached the city he told Crawford he had decided to change his name and go to a far away place and try to atone for the wrongs he had committed. He declined to tell Crawford where he intended to go or the name he intended to take ...

"In New Orleans, Desha, then going under the name of John Parker, encountered Thomas Early of Brown County, Ohio, who was on his way to Texas to purchase horses and mules. Early was said to have been well supplied with gold money with which to do his trading. He and Parker, aboard the schooner RIGHTS OF MAN, arrived in April 1828 at Rightors (now Morgans) Point, where the present Houston Ship Channel enters Galveston Bay. They then continued overland to San Felipe de Austin, on the Brazos River, near the present town of Sealy, where they arrived early in May. After a few days they continued to San Antonio.

"At Gonzales, some ninety miles west of San Felipe, Parker was alone. At the Salado Creek, Parker encountered a number of men who were on their way back to San Felipe, and he gave to one of them, Noah Smithwick, $6 in silver and an old brass pistol that he asked him to deliver to a merchant in San Felipe from whom he had borrowed them. Parker continued on to San Antonio, where he lost an abundance of money in monte games. A short while later, Frank White Johnson and Wilie B. White were in San Antonio preparing to return to San Felipe. Parker asked if he might ride in their wagon back to that place. They agreed, and the three, together with a Mexican cigar-maker, made the journey together. Suspicion began to fix on Parker as having murdered Early as soon as his return to San Felipe.

"A short while later, a party returning from San Antonio found part of Early's clothing in Peach Creek. Some six or seven men from San Felipe who had come out for the purpose found a skull that they thought to be Early's, and soon afterwards an old hunter found the remaining bones, 'very much scattered and some broken by the wolves'.

"Thomas Marshall Duke, said to have been a nephew of Chief Justice John Marshall, was then alcalde of San Felipe. A former resident of Washington, Kentucky, he was satisfied that Parker was Isaac B. Desha 'from his family resemblance and his breathing through a silver tube'. He arrested Parker, who after his identification by another former Kentuckian, admitted he was Desha. There was no jail in San Felipe, so the authorities called in a blacksmith, Noah Smithwick, to put Desha in irons. In Gonzales, Smithwick had purchased from a mustang catcher a black mare. Upon his appearance on the horse in San Felipe, he had fallen under suspician, as the horse was that on which Early had left town sometime before. Smithwick had been annoyed by this suspicion, so he took some pride in making Desha's

shackles escape-proof. Stephen F. Austin wrote of Desha's apprehension to his sister in Missouri: ' We have Isaac B. Desha in irons here for murdering a man on the road between this (place) and San Antonio --- his tryal (rather his examination) is progressing, there appears but little doubt of his guilt ----'

"On August 13, the day before Desha was to go to trial before a jury of his peers, he died of a fever. Previously he had confessed to Duke and James B. Miller, another former Kentuckian, that he had murdered Baker and Early and that he had intended, on the trip from San Antonio, to rob Johnson and White but that the watchfulness of the Mexican cigar-maker had prevented his doing so. Duke, in one of his letters, promised to send to Kentucky a copy of Desha's preliminary examination, as well as his confession and the depositions of the witnesses, but he seems not to have done so.

"The later claim that Desha had not died but had been permitted to escape was labelled as a falsehood as early as 1892 by a writer whose Kentuckian father, Henry Stevenson Brown, had been a resident of San Felipe at the time of Desha's arrest and death.

"As he had died and been buried in San Felipe de Austin, Texas in 1828, Isaac B. Desha could not have been the founder of the Desha family in Hawaii, the first member of which arrived in the islands either in 1846 or 1847, some eighteen or nineteen years after Isaac B. Desha's death. And that Desha could not have been Isaac B., for at the time of Baker's murder he had been but four years old and at the time of Early's but eight.

"The progenitor of the Hawaii Deshas was John R. Langherne Desha, born in Boone County, Kentucky, February 17, 1820, and died in Honolulu, December 3, 1871. He was a grandson, not a son, of Governor Desha of Kentucky, and therefore a nephew of Isaac B. Desha. During the first years of his quarter-century residence in Honolulu, Desha had either gone under the name of Langherne or had used it in business. As early as October 1852, he advertised 'LANGHERNE', Druggist, Nuuanu Street, next door above Everett's Auction Room, and 'oppsoite the Market and next door to Capt. Spencer's Ship Chandlery'. Two years later he announced a new location: ....

"Toward the end of the 1850s, King Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma became interested in founding a hospital for the native population. It was opened under the name of Queen's Hospital. Desha was the purveyor from its foundation to his death, and it was said that no small part of its efficiency was the result of the 'careful and intelligent performance of his duties'. At the end of the 1860s, Desha appears to

have attended the Anglican cathedral, St. Andrew's, although at the time of his death he was a Roman Catholic. He was also a member of the Independent Order of Good Templars, that memorialized him as a valuable member and a 'useful citizen' --- one in whom the qualities of Faith, Hope and Charity were nobly exemplified.

"Little imformation is available about the Desha family, but it appears that he had a son, Stephen L. Desha, a half Hawaiian, born at Lalaina, island of Maui, on July 11, 1859, who became a Congregational minister, and who died at Hilo, island of Hawaii, on July 22, 1934, survived by a widow, two sons and a daughter." (77a)

The seventh child of Governor and Mrs. Joseph Desha was John Randolph Desha, born June 25, 1804, in Mason County, Kentucky and died in Lexington, Kentucky, July 27, 1878. He married in 1838 Mary Bracken Curry, who died March 23, 1875, in Versailles, Kentucky. John Randolph Desha was a physician. He was educated at Washington, then the leading town of Mason County, and at Transylvania University. His course in medicine completed, he began practice in Sumner County, Tennessee, and later in Little Rock, Arkansas. In 1830 he returned to Kentucky, settling in Cynthiana where he married. His wife was the daughter of Judge James R. Curry, a distinguished lawyer and soldier of the War of 1812. Judge Curry died in Cynthiana, August 31, 1880, aged ninety-two years.

After his marriage Dr. John R. Desha returned to Little Rock, this time remaining until 1843 when he came to Georgetown, Kentucky, to be with his widowed mother. In 1850 he moved to Lexington, where he lived until his death. He was killed by a freight train near Georgetown, Saturday, July 27, 1878, and was buried the following day in Lexington from the residence of his son-in-law, Colonel W. C. P. Breckenridge.

Dr. John Randolph Desha and wife Mary Bracken (Curry) Desha, were parents of five children: Benjamin; Issa; Adelaide,born 1845 and died 1860; Mary; and Ella Desha, born 1852 and died 1860.

Benjamin Desha, son of Dr. John Randolph Desha and wife Mary Bracken (Curry) Desha, was born about 1841 and died in 1855.

Issa Desha, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Desha, was born in Georgetown, Kentucky, April 18, 1843, and married September 19, 1861, William Campbell Preston Breckenridge, born near Lexington, Kentucky, August 28, 1837. Mr. Breckenridge graduated from Central College in April 1855, and from the law department of the University of Louisville in 1857. He was elected to Congress as a Democrat in 1885 and served

four terms. Mrs. Breckenridge was one of the ladies who received an invitation to attend the "Founders Meeting" of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

To Mr. and Mrs. Breckenridge were born: Eleanor Desha Breckenridge; Sophonisba Preston Desha Breckenridge (who was one of the first members of the DAR) became Vice-Dean of the Woman's Department of the University of Chicago; Campbell Breckenridge, died young; Robert J. Breckenridge; Mary Curry Breckenridge; and Desha Breckenridge who, on November 17, 1898, married Madge McDowell, a great granddaughter of Henry Clay, the statesman. Issa Desha Breckenridge was the second wife of Colonel W. C. P. Breckenridge. She died in Washington, D. C. July 14, 1892. (78)

Eleanor Desha Breckenridge, daughter of William C. P. and Issa (Desha) Breckenridge, married at Washington, D.C. June 24, 1889, Judge Lyman Chalkley. He became Dean of the Law Department at the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee. Two of their children died in infancy. The other two children were Lyman Chalkley, Jr. born June 1, 1898 and Issa Desha born March 5, 1900.

Miss Mary Desha, daughter of Dr. John Randolph and Mary Bracken (Curry) Desha, was born about 1846 and died in 1911, being about sixty-five years of age. The life story of Miss Mary Desha is the story of the founding of the Daughters of the American Revolution. It gives this genealogist a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction to tell the story of Miss Desha, as well as that of the founding of the DAR.

I quote in part from a pamphlet written by Miss Desha herself:

> "Several incorrect statements concerning the origin of the Daughters of the American Revolution have been published it is deemed proper that a true account should now be given. The Society cannot be considered as a safe custodian of the records of the past if it allows to pass unchallenged false mis-representations in regard to the present.
> " ..... a letter appeared in the Washington Post .... giving an account of Hannah Arnett and her patriotic acts during the darkest days of the Revolution. Referring to the fact that the 'Sons' had excluded women from their Society...
> " .... On July 21st a letter from William O. McDowell, of New Jersey, was published in which he said that he was a great-grandson of Hannah Arnett, and called on the women of America to form a society of their own since they had been excluded from the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution at a meeting held in Louisville, Kentucky, April 30th, 1890.
> "Four Washington Women answered the call -- some of

them by return mail -- Miss Mary Desha, Mrs. Hannah McL. Wolff, Miss Eugenia Washington and Mrs. Louise Walcott Knowlton-Brown. These letters told Mr. McDowell of the writers' gratitude that one of the Sons remembered that 'this world was made for women, too', of their delight that at last they were to have an opportunity to wear the 'blue rosette' and be recognized as co-workers; of their desire to help 'keep green' the memory of the women as well as the men of the Revolution; of their unlimited capacity for work, and asked --- 'What can we do ?' In a few days a reply was received from Mr. McDowell asking that a meeting be held immediately, officers elected, and arrangements made for a grand meeting to be held on the 11th of October, the Anniversary of the Discovery of America ---- a date particularly appropriate for the organization of a Society of Women, as it was a Woman's generosity and wisdom that Columbus was indebted for the mears to fit out this fleet for his perilous voyage." (79)

Mrs. Brown offered her house for the meeting, and Miss Desha sent out the invitations. The ladies invited were; Miss Alice E. Meikleham, great-granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson; Miss Eugenia Washington, great-granddaughter of Col. Samuel Washington, and great-niece of General George Washington; Mrs. Ellen Hardin Walworth, great-granddaughter of Col. John Hardin, who was complimented for gallantry on the field at the battle of Saratoga; Mrs. William C. P. Breckenridge, great-granddaughter of Col. Isaac Bledsoe and great-grandniece of General John Montgomery; Miss S. P. Breckenridge, her daughter, who was also great-granddaughter of Attorney General John Breckenridge of President Jefferson's cabinet, and great-granddaughter of General William Campbell of King's Mountain fame; Miss Virginia Grigsby, great-granddaughter of General Isaac Shelby, one of the heroes of King's Mountain, first Governor of Kentucky and Commander of the Kentucky Troops in the War of 1812; Miss Sallie Norvell, granddaughter of the great John Sevier of Tennessee; Mrs. Elizabeth Guion Pierson, granddaughter of Captain Isaac Guion; Mrs. Catherine Finnell Madeira, great-granddaughter of Liet. John Rieley, an officer in a Pennsylvania Regiment and gallant soldier; and Mrs. H. McL. Wolff, great-great-granddaughter of Hannah Arnett.

All of these ladies, with the exception of Miss Meikleham who was out of the city, expressed interest and promised to be present if possible. At that meeting it was decided to postpone any action until the early fall when 'everyone' would get home again, and Miss Desha was requested to inform Mr. McDowell of that decision.

Plans were proposed by various members of the group and they were studied. Miss Desha wrote a letter to Mr. William McDowell, dated July 28, 1890, giving an outline of the

discussion at the meeting. On July 30, 1890 an answer arrived accompanied with a full plan of organization, a number of application blanks, a constitution and a beautifully bound book for the Constitution when it had been amended and approved by the ladies who would form the National Society; Also, Mr. McDowell's application for membership and a check for his initiation fees and dues. This check and Constitution are in the Archives of the Society at this time.

A meeting was then called August 9, 1890; some of the ladies were prevented from attending due to one reason or another. At that meeting it was decided that the Society in Washington should be the National Society, that in order to make a beginning Mrs. Walworth would be Secretary, Miss Washington would be Registrar, Mrs. Levi P. Morgan would be asked to be Treasurer; and Mrs. Mary Orr Earle, Mrs. Hannah McL. Wolff, Mrs. Flora Adams Darling, Mrs. Louise Walcott K. Brown, Miss Sophonisba Preston Breckenridge, Miss Virginia Shelby Grigsby and Miss Mary Desha should form a Board of Managers. Mrs. Walworth, Miss Washington and Miss Desha accepted the appointments and immediately went to work.

Miss Breckenridge wrote under date August 19, 1890:

> "Dear Mrs. Walworth: My aunt, Miss Desha, informs me that I am elected a member of the Executive Board of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and I wish at once to signify my willingness to serve and my appreciation of the honor of the appointment. Hoping that I may be able to be of service, I am .... Sincerely, Sophonisba Preston Breckenridge."(80)

Others accepted as quickly, and the organization was well on its way, wise in judgment and determined of action, which has never gone backward but always forward to this day.

The organization was founded: To perpetuate the memory and spirit of the women and men of the Revolutionary period; To collect and preserve historical and biographical records, documents, and relics, and to obtain portraits of eminent American Women. These objectives have been followed through the years.

> The present By-Laws read: "The objects of this Society as stated in Article II of the By-Laws are: No.1. To perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence; by the acquisition and protection of historical spots and the erection of monuments; by the encouragement of historical research in relation to the American Revolution and the publication of its results; by the preservation of documents and relics, and of the records of the individual services of Revolutionary soldiers and patriots; and by the promotions of celebrations of all patriotic anni-

versaries. 2. To carry out the injunction of Washington in his farewell address to the American people, '... to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge' thus developing an elightened public opinion, and affording to young and old such advantages as shall develop in them the largest capacity for performing the duties of American citizens. 3. To cherish, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism and love of country, and to aid in securing for mankind all the blessings of liberty."

The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution was chartered by an Act of Congress in 1896. It is there stated that each year a report upon its major activities is to be sent to the Federal Government. The first report compiled included the work achieved from the date of organization in 1890 to the date of publication 1897 and since then a condensed report has been printed annually.

Mr. McDowell suggested the report and wrote the Constitution. The ladies in Washington organized the National Society, preparatory to the October meeting, and appointed the original Executive Board.

The first official list of Officers of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution 1890-1891, included some of the most prominent and patriotic women of the United States of that day. Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, wife of the President of the United States, from Indiana, was the first President-General; President Harrison was the grandson of William Henry Harrison, who was sixty-eight years old when he was inaugurated on March 4, 1841, but died of pneumonia contracted from exposure the day of his inauguration. Benjamin Harrison was inaugurated on March 4, 1889. This was the hundredth year since George Washington was inaugurated as the first President of the young Republic, and ceremonies commemorating that event took place in New York City. The Inaugurations now are held in Washington, District of Columbia. The year 1889 was the entrance of six new States -- North and South Dakota, Montana, Washington, Wyoming and Idaho, which were admitted into the Union. The Territory of Oklahoma was also formed out of a part of the Indian Territory. The Unites States was growing -- women were not yet allowed to vote -- but their patriotism was aflame and they were marching to victory.

The Daughters of the American Revolution have never participated in politics. There is nothing secret about the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. It should be pointed out that the National Society DAR maintains no lobby at national, state or local government levels, contributes to no political party or candidates in any way, initiates no legislation, and does not have any legis-

lative chairman even in its own internal set-up. The DAR is interested in the preservation and maintenance of our Constitutional Republic and does urge its members individually as good American citizens to be informed and to exercise the privilege of the franchise and vote. How one votes is entirely up to the individual.

The DAR continues to maintain the same policies and standards today that it did at the time of it conception.

Other officers elected to serve with Mrs. Harrison at the time of the organization were: Mrs. William D. Cabell, Vice-President General and eight vice-presidents general, viz. Mrs. A. W. Greely, Mrs. H. V. Boyston, Mrs. F. O. St. Clair, Mrs. John W. Foster, Mrs. G. Brown Goode, Miss Mary Desha, Mrs. Stephen J. Field, and Mrs. M. A. Earle.

The Honorary Vice-Presidents were: Mrs. James Knox Polk, Mrs. David D. Porter, and Mrs. Thomas A. Hendricks.

Today the DAR is the largest organization of its kind in the United States. The founding of this great organization shall ever serve as a living memorial to Miss Mary Desha, one of the main figures in its founding.

Miss Mary Desha was also active in the work of the Daughters of the Confederacy. She was educated at Sayre Institute and the Kentucky State College, and taught school in Lexington. She resided in Washington for many years where she, on January 29, 1911, responded quickly to the call of death as she had ever responded to the call of Christian duty, friendship and patriotism. She was distinguished for intelligence, courage, and unbroken fidelity in every cause she espoused. She was laid to rest in her own beloved soil of Kentucky.(81) She was never married.

Marcus Brutus Desha, child of Governor Joseph Desha and wife Peggy, was born April 30, 1806 in Kentucky. He married, but I have very little information about him. He had a daughter, Frances Margaret Desha.

Adelaide D'Armely Desha, born in Mason County, Kentucky, May 31, 1808, daughter of Governor and Mrs. Desha, was married twice. Her first husband was Dr. ——— Harmon, of Georgetown, Kentucky. They had one son, Bledsoe Desha Harmon. After the death of Dr. Harmon, his widow married Col. William Johnson of Georgetown, the grandfather of Honorable Tom Johnson, ex-member of Congress, and later Mayor of Cleveland, Ohio. Bledsoe Desha Harmon married Mary Jane Loftin, and they became the parents of Adelaide Desha, Helen, Kate and Irma Desha Harmon. (82)

Adelaide Desha Harmon married Edward M. Kirtland, and had Maude Harmon and Helen Desha Kirtland.

Helen Harmon, daughter of Bledsoe Desha and Mary Jane (Loftin) Harmon, married Colonel James A. Baret. They had no issue. Kate Harmon, sister of Helen, married Clopton J. Hammond and had one child, Elizabeth U. Hammond.

Maude Harmon Kirtland, daughter of Edward M. and Adelaide Desha (Harmon) Kirtland, married Perez Moier. Helen Desha Kirtland, daughter of Edward M. and Adelaide Desha (Harmon) Kirtland, married Stuart Dean. (83)

Alvira Desha, daughter of Governor Joseph Desha and wife Peggy, was born April 26, 1810. She may have married a Mr. ——— Fowler. In Governor Desha's will he mentions a granddaughter, Elvira Fowler. No further information known at present.

The twelfth child of Governor Desha and wife Peggy (Bledsoe) Desha was Lucius Junius Brutus Desha, born in Mason County, Kentucky April 25, 1812. He received a liberal education and turned to farming as a vocation, later to politics, and was during his life a Brigadier-General and later a Major in the old State Militia. His farm was considered one of the best in Harrison County, Kentucky. In 1844 he was elected to represent the County in the Legislature, and by re-election served three consecutive terms. He was a member of the Convention of 1849, which formed the Constitution of the State. In 1851 at the first election under the new Constitution, he was again elected to the lower house in the State Legislature, and served one term. In 1861 he was again elected. During the Civil War (War Between the States, or sometimes called the Rebellion) his sympathies were with "the South", and notwithstanding he took no part in the great conflict, yet for several months he was one of the numerous civilian prisoners at Camp Chase, Ohio. In politics he was a staunch Democrat, and cast his first vote for Andrew Jackson and his last, before the War, for John C. Breckenridge. In 1860 there were four candidates for President: Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois and John C. Breckenridge of Kentucky, both Democrats; Abraham Lincoln of Illinois, Republican; John Bell of Tennessee, Constitutional Union candidate. This was the same John C. Breckenridge who was Vice-President with Buchanan; Secretary of War in the Confederate Cabinet; and Major General, C.S.A. During that election the Northern Democrats nominated Douglas and Johnson; the Southern "States Rights" men nominated John C. Breckenridge of Kentucky, and as his running mate Joseph Lane of Oregon. Lucius J. B. Desha was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Baltimore in 1844, when James K. Polk of Tennessee was nominated a condidate for President; and, in 1865 at Cincinnati, where James Buchanan was nominated; at New York in 1868, when Horatio Seymour was the nominee; and last at St. Louis in 1876 when Samuel J. Tilden was chosen as the standard bearer. In that year Mr. Desha was one of the three prominent candi-

dates for Congress in the Sixth Kentucky District, when John G. Carlisle received the nomination. For more than half a century Lucius Junius Brutus Desha was one of the most prominent farmers and influential politicians in Kentucky, and one of the most substantial and valuable citizens of his community. General Desha was married twice, first to Miss Julia Ann Moore of Harrison County, Kentucky, who died in 1839. This marriage was about 1832. The next year he again married, this time to Eliza Jean Moore, a sister of his first wife, who passed away May 6, 1902. Both of his wives were daughters of Moses Moore, of Harrison County, Kentucky, originally from Virginia. Eliza Jean Moore, the second wife, was born in 1818. General L. B. J. Desha died July 10, 1885. General Desha gave two sons to the Confederacy: Captain Joseph Desha and Major Ben Desha. Captain Joseph Desha was born in Harrison County, May 22, 1833 and saw service for the duration of the War, attaining the rank of Captain in the Fifth Regiment Kentucky Volunteers. Another son, Cave Desha, died May 19, 1875. One of General Lucius J. B. Desha's daughters, Julia Ellen, married September 15, 1857 John H. Dills, of Harrison County. (84)

Collins, the Kentucky historian, records: "July 10, 1869 The assessor's book shows some large land holders in Harrison County ..... General Lucius Desha 1,194 acres." Then again, Collins noted: "Members of the Convention which Framed the Present Constitution of Kentucky --- Assembled at Frankfort Oct. 1, 1849 from Harrison County, Hugh Newell, Lucius Desha ... "

In 1862 Collins recorded July 26, "Arrested for disloyalty, Gen. Lucius Desha and ex-Mayor Sam January of Cynthiana and hundreds of prominent citizens, up under arrest. Fears of the result of a free election on Monday next, is said to have instigated many arrests." and on "August 14, 1862 Memorial of Gen. Lucius Desha, the representative from Harrison County (now a military prisoner at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio) presented, asking the legislature to take steps to restore him to liberty and to his seat in the house." Then, again, Collins wrote in his record: "Feb.24, 1863. The house of representatives adopted the report of the select committee exonerating Gen. Lucius Desha, the member from Harrison County, from the charge of 'having given aid and assistance to the rebel' John Morgan and his guerrilla band, in the engagements at Cynthiana, and abetted the present rebellion." On December 15, 1863 the record shows: "Case of U.S. Vs Gen. Lucius Desha, in U.S. Court at Covington, charged with treason, dismissed."

Collins also recorded, April 22: "Capt. Joe Desha, with a company of over one hundred men leaves Harrison County for the Confederacy, Other companies leave from other parts of the State." And on March 26, 1866, "Duel, with pistols, on the farm of Jas. K. Duke in Scott County between Capt.

Joseph Desha and Capt. Alex. Kimbrough, both of Harrison County; on the second round, Kimbrough wounded in the hip, not dangerously; cause ——— a personal matter before the war, renewed since; Desha was in the Confederacy, and Kimbrough in the Federal Army."

Captain Joseph Desha and Major Ben Desha both served in Morgan's Command --- Commanded by John H. Morgan, a native of Alabama, but had spent his youth and early manhood in Lexington, Kentucky. He had served in the Kentucky Cavalry during the Mexican War, when he was little more than a boy. Ardently Southern in his sympathies, he entered the Confederacy early in 1861, and at once became disginguished as a gallant and daring cavalry officer. Collecting around him a band of soldiers as fearless and enterprising as himself, he brought his command into such discipline that he could rely upon their obedience and valor in any peril. He was greatly beloved in Kentucky. History records Morgan and his troops as among the most courageous of that time. (86)

Captain Joseph (called Joe) Desha married Clarissa Rogan, daughter of Francis and Martha Lytle (Read) Rogan, and the granddaughter of Hugh Rogan.

During the early years of the Cumberland Settlement, whenever and wherever there was trouble with the Indians, Hugh Rogan was to be found. He was called a "raw Irishman", having been born in Glentourn (Glentown), County Donegal, Ireland, on September 16, 1747. He took for his wife Ann Duffy of Lisduff, County Tyrone. Before leaving their homeland, this couple had one son, Bernard, born at Lisduff in 1774 and died at Rogana, Sumner County, Tennessee, in February 1873, aged ninety years and three months. Hugh Rogan served under the patriot Grattan in his native land, and when his chief's cause failed he fled to America. He arrived in America a few days after the battle of Bunker Hill. He enlisted on the first ship built by the colonists in the War of the Revolution, and served in various capacities until the colonists had gained their independence. Soon he joined the Donaldson party and made his way to the southwestern frontier, down the Tennessee, and up the Cumberland to French Lick, now Nashville, Tennessee. He first located at the mouth of Stone's River, but at the breaking up of that settlement he went to Mansker's Station in Sumner County. He took an active part in the battles with the Indians. He was one of General Robertson's men on the Coldwater expedition, and was severely wounded near the mouth of Duck River. Hugh Rogan was one of the defenders of Bledsoe's Fort against the Indians, and he was with General Daniel Smith in 1782, when the General was attacked near where Cragfont now is. He was one of the signers of the Cumberland Compact. He was a man of courage and determination, yet warm-hearted and beloved by all the pioneers.

He moved from Mansker's Station to the Fort of Colonel Isaac Bledsoe, where he made his home. After there were no more Indians to fight, he started back to Ireland to bring his wife and son over, but reaching Virginia learned that his wife who believed him dead had married again. He returned to Sumner County. Some years later he received a message from his wife that the story of her marriage was false. It had been twenty-one years in 1796 since he had left the Old Country, and again he set out for his homeland. As soon as possible he returned to Sumner County, where he owned valuable lands, some of which remain in possession of descendants to this day. He died at Rogana in 1814. Francis the Second, son of Hugh and Ann Rogan, was born in Sumner County in 1798, and lived there all his life where he died in 1886, on the farm at Rogana later owned by his son, William Rogan.

Martha Lytle Read, mother of Clarissa Rogan, the wife of Captain Joseph Desha, was daughter of Polly Bledsoe, daughter of Colonel Isaac and Catherine (Montgomery) Bledsoe, who married William Read of Sumner County. Martha Lytle Read had brothers and sisters: Margaret, Katherine, Anthony, Francis Boyd, Isaac de Brierleigh, Clarissa, William Hadley and Cornelia Read. (88)

Hugh Rogan witnessed the will of Anthony Bledsoe July 20, 1788 in Sumner County, which proves that Mr. Rogan was there at that early date. Hugh Rogan also witnessed a bill of sale between Isaac Bledsoe and Thankful Hall, September 1790. Hugh Rogan evidently did not leave a will at his death, but there is on record in Sumner County a will of Nancy Rogan dated November 28, 1838 in which she names: Grandson Hugh Rogan; Granddaughter Clarissa Rogan; Grandson William Rogan; Son Francis Rogan and heirs; Son Samuel Rogan. Appoints son Francis Rogan executor. The will was witnessed by James Barr, Samuel Barr, and was proved in March 1839. (89)

Joseph Holmes Desha, son of General Joseph Desha and wife Peggy (Bledsoe), was born April 12, 1815. I have no other information about this member of the family.

The thirteenth child of General (Governor) Joseph Desha and wife Peggy died in infancy.

There was a Morgan Desha who lived in Harrison County, Kentucky, whose will is a matter of record there, dated December 7, 1816 and proved October 1817. In it he names Nancy and Nelly Gannon and a son William. The executor was a Mr. Kilgore. I have not been able to identify this man, but I am certain he is connected with the family in some way. (90)

Footnotes:

1. Memorials of the Huguenots in America, by Rev. A. Stapleton, A.M., M.S., 1901. pp.1-30-33-155-81-82.
2. Letter from Porter Farquharson Cope to Edythe Whitley, 7-17-1939, in Whitley Collection Genealogical data, Nashville, Tenn.
3. W. Heckewelder's Journey, 1792, near Vincennes, Indiana on the Wabash.
4. National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, D.C.
5. Historic Sumner County, Tennessee, by J. G. Cisco, 1909, p.111.
6. Pennsylvania Archives, Revolutionary Soldiers, 5th Series, Vol.4. p.93.
7. Pennsylvania Archives, 5th Series, Vol.I p.312.
8. National Society DAR No.4: No.1245: No.2089: 7073: 12988: 17999: 18468, etc.
9. Frontier Forts of the Revolution (very rare), copy in NSDAR Library, Washington, D.C.
10. NSDAR Files, Washington, D.C.
11. Collins' Historical Sketches of Kentucky, History of Kentucky by Collins, published 1882. Vol I, p.11.
12. Sumner County, Tennessee Will Book II, p.191; also Sumner County, Tennessee, Will Abstracts, by Edythe Whitley. Published 1956.
13. Sumner County, Tennessee, Will Book I, p.6: also Sumner County Will Abstracts by Edythe Whitley. Pub.1956.
14. Sumner County, Tenn. Will Book I, pp.239-240-241, etc. Also Sumner County Will Abstracts by Whitley, 1956.
15. Davidson County, Tennessee, Marriage Book I, p.41.
16. Letter to Edythe Whitley from Miss Eleanor Desha Kosmac of Extension, Louisiana.
17. DAR Lineage Book, Vol.155, p.65.
18. Will of Robert Desha, Sumner County, Tennessee.
19. DAR Tennessee State Report, 1930, p.135; also Goodspeed's History of Tennessee, Volume containing Sumner County, published 1832, p.820.
20. Sumner County, Tennessee, Marriage Bonds, Vol.I. (Unpublished)
21. Sumner County, Tennessee, Marriage Book I. (Unpublished)
22. Historic Sumner County, Tennessee, by J. G. Cisco, published 1909, pp.104-113.

23. Roster and Soldiers Tennessee Society DAR 1894-1960 compiled by Edythe Whitley, published 1961,p.1418,etc.

24. Appleton's Cyclopedia of American Biography, Vol.11, p.151. Heitman's Register U.S. Army. etc.

25. James Given to Jackson, Oct.16, 1830. Jackson Papers.

26. Life of Andrew Jackson by Marquis James,p.551.

27. Manuscript, Mary French Caldwell Collection -- Jackson Papers, Nashville, Tenn. Unpublished.

28. P. F. Cope correspondence with E. Whitley, in Whitley Genealogical Collection.

29. Nelson County, Kentucky Marriages.

30. Old City Cemetery, Nashville, Tenn., Section 2, Lot No.10.

31. Davidson County, Tennessee Court Minutes 1813,p.1136

32. Davidson County Tenn. Court Minutes, July 29, 1829 to Oct. 27,1831, p.313.

33. Will Book 1861-65, p.371, Davidson County, Tennessee.

34. Davidson County, Tenn. Will Book 1856-59,p.136.

35. Davidson County, Tenn. Will Book 1856-59,p.136.

36. Davidson County, Tenn. Will Book 1856-59, pp. 284,331,333.

37. Davidson County Tennessee Court Minutes 1833-41, p.220.

38. Davidson County Tenn. Deeds "X", p.536.

39. Cope Correspondence in Whitley Collection, 1939.

40. Bible Records in Cope Collection, copy in Whitley Collection, Nashville, Tennessee.

41. Cope Correspondence to E. Whitley, 1939.

42. Cope Correspondence to E. Whitley, Nashville, Tenn. 1939.

43. Cope Correspondence to E. Whitley, 1939.

44. Editorial by L. Clark Davie in Public Ledger,Philadelphia, Pa., and other obituary notices and various biographies; Portraits by Thomas Sully, Samuel B. Waugh, Henry Inman and other artists.

45. Cope Correspondence to Edythe Whitley, 1939.

46. Recollections of Memucan Hunt Howard 1883. The American Historical Magazine and Tennessee Historical Society Quarterly, Vol.VII, No.1,Jany 1902,p.55.

47. Old City Cemetery, Nashville. Section 2,lot No.10.

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65. Sumner County, Tennessee, Marriage Book I,1787-1838. Unpublished transcript in Whitley Collection and copy in Tennessee State Library, Nashville, Tenn.

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THE BLEDSOES OF BLEDSOE'S LICK

It may be questioned why I have included this brief sketch of the Bledsoe family. Although not a direct line of President Johnson, it is so closely connected with the Desha family by numerous intermarriages that I feel it deserves a place here. The Desha and the Bledsoe families lived near each other in their Sumner County homes during those difficult days when families had to ban together to protect themselves from the barbarious savages which infested the country.

The first person of the name Bledsoe that I have been able to find in Virginia, where it seems the family seated at an early date, was William Bledsoe who was a headright of Thomas Symons, who patented three hundred acres of land in James City County, on the Chickahominy River, adjoining John Robins, June 8, 1639.

Proof of the relationship of William Bledsoe and George Bledsoe, the first known progenitor of the family herein traced, is not satisfactorily proven.

George Bledsoe was living in Northumberland County, Virginia, in 1674. He is said to have been a headright of Colonel George Gwynn, who patented land in that county. George Bledsoe's will was probated August 5, 1705 in Northumberland. (1) His first wife was named Anne. In 1691 She released her dower rights to land conveyed by her husband, so she was certainly alive at that time.

The second wife of George Bledsoe was Mrs. Elizabeth Lattimore. It is unlikely that she was the mother of any of his children.

In 1706 Mrs. Elizabeth Bledsoe made her will in which she mentions her son, Edward Lattimore; daughter, Elizabeth Nelms, and named her daughter and her daughter's husband Nelms, executrix and executor. (2)

A book could easily be written on the Bledsoe family alone; here it is proper to include only such portion as may have a direct bearing on the individuals of interest.

The children of George Bledsoe and his first wife Anne who are named in the will, are John, George, Abraham, William, Thomas, and Sarah who married Thomas Dameron. Of these, Abraham and William are the two who will interest us most.

William Bledsoe married a lady named Anne, and secondly

he took for his wife Mrs. Elizabeth Stevens. He is more often referred to as "Captain" William Bledsoe. William Bledsoe was born before 1684 as he was executor of his father's will in 1705, which indicates that he was then of age. The maiden name of his first wife is unknown. She died before 1727. In that year "Captain" William Bledsoe married Elizabeth, widow of Charles Stevens, who had died June 26, 1726. Mrs. Elizabeth Bledsoe was the executrix of Captain Bledsoe's will, in which he bequeathed to her and children, Mumford, Mattie and Elizabeth Stevens, land, a plantation in Essex County, Virginia.

"Elizabeth, late ye wife of Charles Stevens, now wife of William Bledsoe:" presented the will. (3)

William Bledsoe, gent, was commissioned the first Sheriff of Spottsylvania County, July 9, 1722. (4) He seems to have also served as Captain of the Militia. Joined by his wife, Elizabeth, he made several deeds of gift to their son, Joseph Bledsoe, in 1759-60. (5)

Abraham Bledsoe, who appears to have been the third son of George Bledsoe, married first Katherine Ball; and secondly, a lady named Sarah. On June 6, 1732, Abraham Bledsoe and wife Sarah sold four hundred acres of land in St. Mark's Parish, Spottsylvania County, to Thomas Watts. (6) He and his brother William Bledsoe, sold part of a patent granted them May 30, 1726. The will of Abraham Bledsoe was dated March 15, 1753 in Granville County, North Carolina, and was probated May 29 of the same year. He names his wife Sarah, his sons, Isaac, Abraham, Thomas, Jacob, Moses, and Aaron, and refers to "the rest of my children". The executrix was his wife Sarah, and his son-in-law Henry Thornton was the executor. (7)

We do not wish to confuse this Bledsoe family with Abraham, Anthony, William and George Bledsoe, noted Indian fighters who removed from Augusta to Washington County, Virginia, at an early date. They were probably cousins of Anthony, Isaac and Abraham who settled in Middle Tennessee. One of these four brothers, Abraham, had sons Thomas, Loven, Anthony, William and Isaac. These were all family names handed down from one generation to another in the various branches of the family.

Anthony Bledsoe, son of Abraham the son of George Bledsoe, of Northumberland County, Virginia, was born as near as I have been able to establish about 1733. He married about 1760 Mary Ramsey, a native of Augusta County, Virginia, born about 1734 and died after her husband in Sumner County, Tennessee, in the year 1808. Anthony Bledsoe left a will in Sumner County which bears date 1788.

Mary Ramsey was the daughter of Thomas Ramsey of Augusta

County, Virginia. One of her brothers, Josiah Ramsey, was captured by the Indians when a child being returned to the settlements after "Boquet's treaty" in 1764. He was in the Battle of Point Pleasant, and was a scout in the Cherokee Campaign of 1776, and in 1780 removed to Kentucky; the next year removed to the Cumberland Settlement, where he was Major of Militia. Thomas Ramsey died at an advanced age at the home of his son in Missouri. Other brothers of Mrs. Bledsoe were Henry and William Ramsey, both killed by Indians. Mrs. Bledsoe was fifty-four years old when her husband was killed. Five years later, Mrs. Mary Ramsey Bledsoe married an old man, a pioneer, Nathan (Nathaniel) Parker. She died in 1808.

Nathaniel Parker was from Hampshire County, Virginia. There is in Sumner County, Tennessee, dated September 20, 1790, a record stating Nathaniel Parker of Hampshire County, Virginia, appoints Elmon Douglass of Sumner County, North Carolina (later Tennessee), attorney to act for him in the sale of and attend all matters in his interest. (8)

Mr. Parker survived his second wife, for his will dated February 25, 1811, refers to son Robert land adjoining Hugh Rogan, David Shelby and Isaac Parker. He also names sons John, Thomas, Richard, Isaac, Nathaniel and Robert. Daughter Betsey Colger; daughter Mary Thompson. He then refers to "My second wife's daughter Nancy". (9)

Mrs. Mary Ramsey Bledsoe Parker had no children by her second husband, Nathaniel Parker.

Colonel Anthony Bledsoe was a Justice of the Peace in Botetourt, Fincastle and Washington Counties, Virginia. He was a Captain in the Colonial Army; Major of the Militia during the Revolutionary War; was in the "Battle of the Flats"; Commander of the troops at Long Island from December 1776 to April 1777; first Representative from Washington County in the Virginia Legislature. He removed to Davidson County, North Carolina (now Tennessee) in 1781. He was one of the first Justices of the Peace for the Mero District (Davidson County, now Tennessee); the first Colonel of Davidson County Militia, and one of the three commissioners to run for the "Commissioner's Line"; one of the first trustees of Davidson Academy; the first representative in the North Carolina Legislature from Sumner County, where he settled.

The Davidson Academy, just mentioned, was one of the most important places in the early settlement of Davidson and Sumner Counties, then called the Mero District. It was created by the General Assembly of North Carolina. It was headed by the Reverend Thomas Craighead, the first Presbyterian Minister in the Cumberland Settlement in Davidson County. The Academy was located by the old gate of the

present Spring Hill Cemetery, near Nashville on the Gallatin Road.

Rev. Mr. Craighead was the father of John Craighead, who married the widow of Charles Dickinson who died in 1806 as a result of a duel with General (later President) Andrew Jackson, an event which I have previously mentioned.

It is proper here to make a few additional comments on the Dickinson family since it became closely associated with the Buntins. Charles Dickinson, formerly of Caroline County, Maryland, had married Jane Erwin, daughter of Captain Joseph Erwin. Mr. Dickinson left a son at his death, Henry Dickinson. The young widow later married John Craighead in Davidson County, March 21, 1809.

John Craighead had a brother, Davis, who came to the Nashville Bar in 1814 and would have acquired more distinction as a lawyer had he not, when young, married into wealth and thus became relieved from the "Spur" of necessity. He was a man of native wit, a good speaker and possessed fine conversational powers.

Daniel Franklin Carter of Nashville lived across the street from where the Hermitage Hotel now stands on the corner of Union and Sixth Avenue North. He was a wealthy man and was owner and operator of many stage lines out of Nashville. It was at his home that General Ulysses Grant had his personal headquarters in Nashville during the "War of the Rebellion" (Civil War). The Carter family continued to reside in the house at the time, but General Grant also quartered there. Just across the street, about half way down the block on Sixth Avenue, was the headquarters of the Army of General Grant, and the old military stables were on the Capitol Boulevard side of the block.

Through the marriage of Daniel F. Carter and Mary J. Buntin, February 15, 1837, these prominent families became closely identified. Daniel Franklin Carter Buntin was adopted by the descendants of the John Craighead family and received great wealth by the adoption from the Carter family whose wealth had come through the Carters, the Buntins and the Craigheads.

I think that some of the Sixth Avenue and Union Street property remains in the possession of descendants even to this day.

David Craighead, brother of John Craighead, and son of Reverend Thomas Craighead and wife, married Phereby Whyte, daughter of Judge Robert Whyte of the Tennessee Supreme Court. Judge Whyte had married Phereby Glasgow, daughter of James Glasgow, Secretary of State of North Carolina. James Glasgow signed nearly all the land grants issued by

North Carolina to lands in Tennessee.

Judge Whyte, who succeeded Judge John Overton on the Supreme bench, was a native of Wigtonshire, Scotland, born January 6, 1767. He was educated in Edinburgh for the ministry and was at one time professor of languages at WILLIAM AND MARY COLLEGE in Virginia. He studied law in Virginia, and moved to North Carolina, then in 1804 moved to Nashville, Tennessee. He served as Supreme Judge from 1816 to 1834, and died November 12, 1844. He was a devout Baptist and prominent in Masonic fraternity. (10)

Jennie Craighead was the daughter of David Craighead and his wife, Phereby Whyte Craighead. She died in Nashville in 1929, and was the widow of William Allison Buntin. They were the parents of Daniel Franklin Carter Buntin who was adopted by his Buntin-Carter relatives. The Allison name came into the Buntin family through the marriage of one of the early Buntins with the Allison family in North Carolina.

The name Buntin in this branch of the family seems usually to be spelled Buntin, while in another branch it is found most often as Bunton; they are one and the same originally.

The will of Mrs. Jennie C. Buntin of Nashville clears the relationship of these families, and refers to "son Daniel C. Buntin". "To grandson Thomas Craighead Buntin" property was left; "To granddaughter May Winston Buntin" certain legacy. This will was executed the 19th of July, 1929. (11)

From the very earliest settlement of the Cumberland and that of the Red River country along the Kentucky-Tennessee line, the Bledsoes and the Buntins have been associated.

The story of Colonel Anthony and Colonel Isaac Bledsoe cannot be written entirely apart, for where you find one you find the other.

In the fall of 1781, Colonels Anthony and Isaac Bledsoe patented several thousand acres of land near a Sulphur Spring where the buffaloes came to lick the salt. This country was explored by Colonel Isaac Bledsoe, one of the famous "Long Hunters", and the "Lick" and creek still bear the Bledsoe name. A later owner of "Bledsoe's Lick" was George Winchester Wynne whose great-grandfather, General James Winchester, bought it from Isaac Bledsoe.

Early in the year of 1788, Colonels Robertson and Bledsoe addressed a joint letter to McGilvery, the Indian Chief, with reference to the repeated attacks of the Indians. To this communication the Chief replied, promising to use his best endeavors to put a stop to the depredations. But soon afterwards hostilities were renewed, and Colonel Bledsoe

was one of the first victims. In 1788, for greater security, he had moved his family to the fort of his brother, Isaac, at Bledsoe's Lick. An account of this action is given by William Hall, who was present in the fort with his mother, brothers and sisters.

Bledsoe's Fort was built around an oblong-square, with a big double cabin occupied by Colonel Anthony and Colonel Isaac Bledsoe, across the front on the Nashville Road, so that the whole was completely enclosed by a stockade except the open passage between the two cabins. The mouth of a lane running at right angles to the fort was about thirty yards distant. The Indians had been scouting the place during the day, and the night being a bright moonlit one, the savages hid in the fence corners, then got a party to mount on horseback and gallop down the road in order to attract persons into the passage between the cabins. The plot succeeded. About midnight at the sound of the horses' feet, Colonel Anthony and his servant, Campbell, jumped up and stepped into the passage through which the moonlight poured. The Indians shot them both. Colonel Anthony Bledsoe died the next morning, July 20, 1788. (12)

Colonel Anthony Bledsoe knew that he was going to die, and said to his brother that if he could get a pen and ink he would write his will. Isaac Bledsoe called Jones Clendenning from the other room and asked him to write Anthony's will, as he was too confused and upset to do it for his brother. They brought a table close, and while Mr. Clendenning was writing the caption of the will, Anthony Bledsoe observed to his brother , Isaac, that he wanted him and Colonel Daniel Smith and his wife to be the Executors and Executrix of his will. Colonel Bledsoe was in great pain, and Caty (Katherine) got up behind him in the bed and supported him until the will was finished. This was Catherine Montgomery, wife of Colonel Isaac Bledsoe.

Isaac said to Anthony, "Mr. Clendenning is ready to write your will. How do you want your property disposed of ?" Anthony Bledsoe stated to Clendenning that he wanted to leave a small tract of land to each of his daughters, at the discretion of his executors, and the balance of his lands to his sons, except his land on the Holston and in Kentucky, and that he wished these sold to raise and educate his children, the balance of his property to be equally divided among all his children, except the four oldest negroes, and them he desired to remain with his wife until her death, then to be equally divided among his children. He mentioned his wife as Mary in the will. (13)

There are many prominent persons descended from Colonel Anthony Bledsoe and his wife. Sarah Bledsoe, the daughter, married David Shelby who fought at King's Mountain. Betsy Bledsoe, another daughter, married James Clendenning who

wrote the will. The sons, Anthony and Thomas, were killed by the Indians. (14)

James Clendenning, the husband of Betsy Bledsoe, was the son of William Clendenning who moved from Ireland with his family to Orange County, North Carolina about 1765. The older brother of James was Lieutenant John Clendenning who was born in Ireland and joined the regiment of Colonel Jethro Sumner as Ensign in December 1776, and in 1777 was promoted to Lieutenant; and in 1781 he became Quartermaster of the Third North Carolina Regiment, Continental Line. He was with Washington at Princeton, Trenton and Brandywine. He was taken prisoner at the surrender of Charleston in May 1780, and exchanged the next year and served until the end of the war. He died in 1790. He was awarded 2560 acres of land in Tennessee for 84 months service as an officer in the North Carolina Continental Line during the Revolution. (15)

The children of Colonel Anthony Bledsoe and wife Mary (Ramsey) Bledsoe, were: Abraham, Thomas, Sarah, Anthony,Jr., Isaac, Henry Ramsey, Rachel, Polly (Mary), Elizabeth (Betsy), Prudence and Susan Bledsoe.

Of these children, Henry Ramsey Bledsoe married in Sumner County, Tennessee, May 22, 1805 Nancy Gillespie. Rachel, sister of Henry Ramsey Bledsoe, married in Sumner County, June 10, 1789 Wm. Neely. Polly (Mary) Bledsoe, another sister of Henry Ramsey Bledsoe, was born in 1780 and married ———— . Elizabeth (Betsy) became the wife of James Clendenning in Sumner County, June 10, 1789; and Susan, sister of Betsy, married in Sumner County, March 12, 1790 William Penny.(16)

Abraham Bledsoe, son of Colonel Anthony and Mary (Ramsey) Bledsoe, served as Captain of a company in the Tennessee Regulars under General Andrew Jackson in the Creek War. He was in the battle of HORSESHOE, and served at the battle of New Orleans, December 1814 and also in January 1815. Abraham Bledsoe wedded in Sumner County, May 4, 1805, Amelia Weathered, daughter of Frank Weathered, a soldier of the Revolutionary War. (17) Abraham Bledsoe and Amelia his wife, were parents of David Bledsoe who died young; and a daughter who married Alfred Shoulders.

Thomas Bledsoe, the second son of Colonel Anthony and Mary Bledsoe, born about 1774, was killed by the Indians near Greenfield in Sumner County, October 1794. He was unmarried.

Sarah Bledsoe, daughter of Colonel Anthony and Mary Bledsoe, married David Shelby. David Shelby was the son of Captain John Shelby of Washington County, Virginia. David Shelby was a soldier in the regiment commanded by Isaac

Shelby in the battle of KING'S MOUNTAIN. David Shelby was the first clerk of Sumner County, Tennessee, and held that position of trust until his death in 1822. The children of David Shelby and Mary (Ramsey) Bledsoe were: John, Anthony Bledsoe, Philip Davies, Priscilla, Lucinda, James, Nellie, David Davies, Orville, Sarah Bledsoe and Albert Shelby.

Colonel Isaac Bledsoe was born in Virginia, possibly in Spottsylvania County, about 1735. He was killed by Indians near Bledsoe's Lick, Sumner County, Tennessee in 1793. Isaac Bledsoe married about 1772 Katherine Montgomery.

Colonel Isaac Bledsoe was a few years younger than his brother, Anthony. Isaac was a "Long Hunter" -- he was a "pathfinder". He was made a Major when Davidson County, North Carolina (now Tennessee) was formed, and was a member of its first court. He was with his brother in all his military operations for defense of the country. It was he who, in 1778, in order to save the settlement, volunteered to go through the wilderness and Indians up to the Ohio River to get powder and lead, and with a single negro slave as his companion, executed his task completely, returning with the powder and lead; then the settlers felt safe. Just to the west of them was the field where Thomas Sharp Spencer planted the first corn ever raised in Sumner County. Colonel Isaac was enlarging this same field in April, 1793 by additional clearings. Indians were lurking in a ravine just south of the public highway. They shot and mortally wounded Colonel Bledsoe, who was in front. He told his hands to rush to the fort, that he could not live and they could do nothing for him. The Indians scalped him while he lay dying and made off with their ghastly trophy.

Colonel Isaac Bledsoe's son, Anthony, and his nephew Anthony, were both killed shortly afterward in this neighborhood while going to school, and were scalped by the Indians.

December 2, 1729, an Isaac (X) Bledsoe of St. George Parish, Spotsylvania County, Virginia, planter, to Robert Jones of Hanover Parish, King George County, gent., £10 Sterling 1000 acres of land in St. George Parish, Spotsylvania County, in the little fork of Rappahannock River, Witnesses, Thomas Hill, Thos Smith, Abram (X) Bledsoe, Recorded Dec 2, 1729. (18) This Isaac Bledsoe is not to be confused with the man named Isaac of our history here, for he was an older Isaac and was probably an uncle of Isaac and Anthony who came to Tennessee.

I have mentioned the above record of 1729 in order to prevent confusion of the two men of the same name: Isaac, brother of Anthony, was not born until about 1735.

The "Long Hunters" mentioned in the history previously were men who remained in the wilderness of what is now Ten-

nessee and Kentucky between two and three years. Stories differ in content, but all add up to one point -- that these men were pioneers, and blazed the trail for the first settlement. There is no documentary or proven list of the men who were with the "Long Hunters" that I know of. That there was a party of hunters, some of whom remained in the wilderness for one year, seems to be well established, but who they were is very uncertain.

"A company of over twenty men from North Carolina, from Rockbridge County, and from the Valley of New River, Virginia, including John Rains, Kasper Mansker, Abraham Bledsoe, John Baker, Joseph Drake, Obediah Terrell, Uriah Stone, Henry Smith, Edward Cowan, Thomas Gordon, Humphrey Hogan, Cassius Brooks, Robert Crockett, James Knox, Richard Scaggs, and others, each with one or more horses, left Reed Creek, their place of rendezvous, on June 2, 1769. They pushed their way through what is now known as Powell's Valley to Cumberland Gap; hence to Flat Lick; thence down the Cumberland River, which they crossed at a 'very remarkable fish dam, which had been made in very ancient times'. Following the river for some distance, then crossing the south fork of the Cumberland, they came to a place since called 'Price's Meadow', near an excellent spring, in what is now Wayne County, Kentucky, where they made a camp and a depot for their skins and game, which they were to deposit there every five weeks. They continued to hunt to the west and southwest, through a country covered with high grass, but finding no trace of human settlements; though they found many places where stones covered large quantities of human bones.

"After being out for some time, how long I do not know, James Knox, Richard Scaggs and four others, whose names are not given, left the main party upon Laurel River because game had become scarce and starting westwardly, crossed Rockcastle River, and going up Scaggs Creek, met a party of Cherokee Indians under the old chief, Captain Dick, who directed them to go to Dick's Creek, where they would find plenty of meat, to 'kill it and go home', which they did.

"In June 1770, some of the hunters returned home, having been out one year, while ten of them, including Mansker, Hogan, Stone, Gordon, Baker, Brooks (names of the other four not given) built two boats and two trapping canoes, laded them with furs and bear meat and proceeded down the Cumberland, down the Ohio, and the Mississippi rivers to Natchez, where they sold their cargo, and where some of them settled, the others returning home through Georgia. Of these who returned home only the names of Mansker and Baker are given.

"In the fall of 1771 Kasper Mansker, James Knox, Henry Knox, Richard Scaggs, Henry Scaggs, Isaac Bledsoe, Abraham

Bledsoe, James Graham, Joseph Drake, John Montgomery, old Mr. Russell, his son young Russell, Hughes, William Allen, William Linch, David Linch, Christopher Stoph and others, twenty-two in all, with several horses came out again. It will be seen that five of this party, Mansker, Abraham Bledsoe, Joseph Drake, James Knox and Richard Scaggs were men of the first party which had gone out in June, 1770.

"The party was so successful in getting skins that they were not able to carry them all back with them, and as their hunt was prolonged they built what they called a 'Skin house' at a common center, in what is now Green County, Kentucky. Their hunt extended into the barrens of Green County, Kentucky and along the Green River. One of the hunters named Bledsoe wrote on a fallen poplar tree which had lost its bark:

'2,300 Deer Skins Lost; Ruination by God'

"Some of the members of this company returned to the settlement in February 1772, because their ammunition was getting short. Indeed all of the company except five, namely, Isaac Bledsoe, William Linch, William Allen, Christopher Stoph, and David Linch returned to procure ammunition and for other purposes. These were left in charge of the camp. One of the Linch men was taken sick 'with Shingles', and Isaac Bledsoe went with him to the settlement. The other three men were left in charge of the camp. They were discovered by the Indians, who attacked them and captured Stoph and Allen. Haywood says, 'Hughes escaped and met the rest of the company returning to camp' etc.

"... Soon after returning to camp the party traveled on through the forest to the southwest and fixed their camp at a place which they gave the name of Station Camp Creek, which it has retained to this day. There they remained from May, 1772 to August of the same year, hunting and exploring the country. It was from members of this party that several geographical localities in Sumner County took their names. Drake's pond, Drake's Creek and Drake's Lick took their names from Joseph Drake. Bledsoe's Lick, Bledsoe's Creek, were so named for their discoverer, Isaac Bledsoe. Jasper (Kasper as some called him) Mansker gave his name to Mansker's Lick and Mansker's Creek." (19)

Colonel Isaac Bledsoe was killed on the Cumberland in the month of April, and on the 20th of the month, a skirmish took place between twenty Indians and eight white men at Laurel river, in Kentucky (1793). (20)

About a year ago, perhaps a little more, I had reason to check the membership files of the Daughters of the American Revolution. To my great surprise I learned that there had never a person to join the Tennessee Society of the DAR on the service of Isaac Bledsoe. Several have joined on

Colonel Anthony Bledsoe, but none on his brother Isaac. This seems to be especially unusual since both men were so prominent in the early settlement of Tennessee, and particularly since Isaac's family was considerably larger than Anthony's. Of course Miss Mary Desha, National No.4 of NSDAR, established the line of Colonel Anthony Bledsoe. (21)

The following certainly establishes Isaac Bledsoe in Sumner County, Tennessee, as early as 1788. John Tatham of Washington County, Virginia, appoints Isaac Bledsoe of Sumner County, North Carolina, lawful attorney, John Provine of Sullivan County buys land in Sumner County, on Station Camp Creek, containing 64 acres. Witnessed by D. Hay, Anthony Bledsoe, Proved July 18, 1788. (22)

Isaac Bledsoe in September 1790 buys a negro from Thankful Hall the administrator of William Hall, Witnessed by John Neely and Hugh Rogan.

August 14, 1790, John D. Hannah sells Isaac Bledsoe negroes, witnesses were G. Winchester and J. Winchester. (23)

Cisco says -- "Isaac Bledsoe in 1771, came to this section of the country with Kasper Mansker and others, known as the 'Long Hunters' on a hunting and prospecting expedition to spy out the land; and, like Caleb of old, he took back with him to the older settlements such a good impression of game and the fertility of the soil, that he determined himself and he induced others to 'go up and possess it'. When he returned to the Cumberland Country is not definitely stated but presumably as early as 1779.

"In 1784 he built 'Bledsoe's Fort' on or near the ground on which we are assembled today ... In 1786 Sumner County was laid off and established by the Legislature of North Carolina, and he was one of the first magistrates of the county. On April 9, 1793 he was killed by Indians while working in his field, which is adjoining the site of the monument dedicated today. His son, Anthony Bledsoe, Jr., met death at the hands of these foes.

"... Each of the Bledsoes had a son in school as early as 1784, and it was while on their way to school they were killed by Indians. This is the first historical record of any school in this section. The laws or regulations prescribed by the 'nobles' who were the law makers for the settlers on the Cumberland River were based on temperance and good morals." (24)

Colonel Bledsoe was a man strong in mind and stronger in body, brave, daring, and fond of adventure; a big heart and a generous soul, and he was a fit companion of such men as Sevier, the Shelbys, Robertson and a score of others who established a new State in the trackless wilderness. Like

his elder brother, Anthony, and his younger brother, Abraham, he was born in Virginia. (25)

In early manhood together with his brothers above named, and others, adventurous souls, he sought a new home in the then extreme West, and settled on the Holston River, at a point near the present line between Virginia and Tennessee, a few miles east of where Bristol now stands. There he continued to make his home until 1780, when he removed to the Cumberland Country.

On a tree in Logan County, Kentucky, not far above the Tennessee line, on March 11, 1780, Isaac Bledsoe cut his name and the date that he was at that spot. The tree, with its previous record, like the heroic man who cut his name thereon, has long since mingled with the soil, but the spot is remembered and recorded by historians.

The Indians gave Colonel Isaac Bledsoe the name of "Tullitoska", the waving corn blade, or perpetual motion. (26)

About 1770, Isaac Bledsoe married Katherine Montgomery, a member of a prominent family of that name in Southwestern Virginia. The Montgomery family had originally migrated to the New World from Ireland. Katherine was related to General Richard Montgomery, who was killed at the storming of Quebec. There were several Montgomery families in Southwest Virginia, possibly all related; among them was Captain James Montgomery, a Colonial officer. He was a Justice of the Peace in Washington County, Virginia, and a Sheriff in 1785. Alexander and Thomas Montgomery of the same section served in the Indian Wars. The most prominent of the name was possibly Lieutenant-Colonel John Montgomery who was a brother of Mrs. Kate Bledsoe. He commanded a Regiment under General George Rogers Clark in the Kaskaskia campaign, where he rendered distinguished service. Lieutenant-Colonel Montgomery was born in Botetourt County, Virginia; came to the Cumberland settlement with the Donelson expedition in 1780. He was the first Sheriff of Davidson County. Soon after his appointment to that position he visited New Orleans, and was said to have been engaged in the "Genet Conspiracy", for which he was impeached in office. After his return to Nashborough (now Nashville), he removed to what is now Montgomery County, which was so named in his honor. He founded Clarksville, named in honor of his old commander, General George Rogers Clark. (27)

The last public service of Lieutenant-Colonel Montgomery was to command the troops on the NICKAJACK EXPEDITION in 1794. In the fall of that year he was killed by Indians while on a hunting expedition above Clarksville in the State of Kentucky.

According to NSDAR records, Katherine Montgomery who

married Isaac Bledsoe was the daughter of John Montgomery and his wife Marguerite (Briarley). Katherine was born in Augusta County, Virginia, at that time the extreme frontier. She was a woman of superior character and attainments. She bore the vicissitudes and confronted the dangers incident to a frontier life with bravery unsurpassed by women of her day. She was loved, honored and respected.

Katherine Montgomery Bledsoe, sister of Colonel John Montgomery, is recognized as having been a dispatch-bearer. She volunteered to take necessary information to headquarters through the wilds of Virginia. In her journey alone, her sex was her safeguard, and she delivered the dispatches to General Washington and returned home in safety. (28)

It is said while on one such journey she was met by a British officer, who suspected her, rode by her side and engaged her in conversation. He complimented her blooded horse, when she, with womanly tact, challenged him for a race and out-distanced him to the extent that she was able to deliver her dispatches.

The Bledsoes, like the Deshas and many of the other pioneer families who planted their roots in the Cumberland settlement, the Red River settlement, and the Green River (Kentucky) settlement, have long been symbols of patriotism, courage and honor to their families and to their section of the United States in which they chose to make their homes.

Colonel Isaac Bledsoe and wife Katherine (Montgomery) Bledsoe were parents of eight children, Margaret Bledsoe born in Washington County, Virginia July 7, 1773, married October 31, 1789 Joseph Desha. She has already been mentioned in connection with her husband and their family.

The second child of Colonel Isaac and Katherine was Sally Bledsoe, who married in Sumner County, Tennessee, March 9, 1795 the Reverend Samuel Gibson. (29)

Anthony Bledsoe, son of Colonel Isaac and Katherine, was killed by the Indians. Polly Bledsoe, sister of Margaret and Sally, married in Sumner County, November 27, 1794 William Read. They had Margaret, Katherine, Anthony, Martha Lytle, Francis Boyd, Isaac de Brierleigh, Clarissa, Mary, William Hadley and Cornelia Read.

Katherine (called Katy) Bledsoe, sister of Polly, Sally and Margaret, married Thomas Scurry and became the mother of Clarissa, Richard, Susan, William Read, and Thomas Jefferson Scurry.

Not very much is known of Lytle Bledsoe, son of Colonel Isaac and Katherine Bledsoe, except that he married a Miss

Sanford. I know little of Isaac Bledsoe,Jr., the brother of Lytle. He may be the Isaac Bledsoe Junior who signed the Legislative Petition in 1801 in Sumner County, so designated to distinguish him from Isaac Bledsoe, Senior, the son of Colonel Anthony Bledsoe, who married Margaret Neely, and lived in Sumner County.

The youngest child of Colonel Isaac Bledsoe and Katherine (Montgomery) Bledsoe was Clarissa, who married David Lauderdale, the son of James Lauderdale of Sumner County.(30)

Isaac Bledsoe in the year 1791 executed his will, which was proved after his death and recorded in Sumner County. An abstract is here given: Daughter Peggy Bledsoe; Daughter Sally Bledsoe; Daughter Polly Bledsoe; Son Anthony Bledsoe; Son Isaac Bledsoe; "Child whereof my wife is now with". Wife Katy Bledsoe. Appoints wife Katy, Anthony Bledsoe, Daniel Smith and George Winchester executors. The will was witnessed by John Desha, Jesse Hughes, Thomas Peal, James Lunn, and Michael Shavin. A codicil was added in which mention is made of son William Lytle Bledsoe. Anthony Bledsoe named Executor "if dead" and James Winchester is appointed in his place. Witnesses were J. Winchester, and G. Winchester. (31)

Katy Bledsoe is further mentioned in 1794 in the NUNCUPATIVE will of Thomas Bledsoe, deceased, recorded in Sumner County, Tennessee, dated October 3, 1794. The said Thomas Bledsoe being bodily wounded by the Indians at or near Bledsoe's Lick and while lying in a state of despair called upon Katy Bledsoe and gave the instructions as to his property, divide among his brothers and sisters, Viz- Sally Shelby, Elizabeth Clendenning, Rachel Neely, Susanna Penny, Isaac Bledsoe and Prudy Bledsoe. Thomas Bledsoe departed this life on October 3, 1794.

Joseph Evans and William Reed made the same statement as did Katy Bledsoe in regard to the property of Thomas Bledsoe. (32)

In closing the story which I have endeavored to bring you, it may be well to recall some of the words spoken and written by great men.

Daniel Webster is accredited with penning: "There may be, and there often is, a regard for ancestry, which nourishes a weak pride -- but there is also a moral and philosophical respect for our ancestors, which elevates the character and improves the heart."

When thinking of our ancestors, whether their deeds be great or small, remember, theirs were deeds which should

not pass away, and names which must not wither.

"We thank our heavenly Father that we sprung from such noble ones,
Without stain or blemish; we may protect this grand name,
While we remain on this earth, during life's busy throng,
In an effort to do justice to our fellow man, rich or poor the same.
What hardships and perils during those pioneer days;
The truth can never be told ---- we can only conjecture and surmise,
In the pioneer days; in an unsettled land; in its sunset rays;
Leaves an everlasting memorial for generations to rise."

****

Footnotes:

1. Northumberland County, Virginia Wills, unpublished; also Index to Virginia Wills, by Clayton Torrence.

2. Northumberland County, Virginia Wills, unpublished; also Index to Virginia Wills, by C. Torrence.

3. Crozier's Spottsylvania County, Virginia Records, p.2.

4. Crozier's Spottsylvania County, Virginia Records, Deeds 1722-29.

5. Crozier's Spottsylvania County, Virginia Records.

6. Crozier's Spottsylvania County, Virginia Records, p.122

7. Granville County, North Carolina Wills, unpublished; North Carolina Archives, Raleigh, N. C.

8. Sumner County, Tennessee Will Book I, p.9; Sumner County, Tennessee Will Abstracts, by Edythe Whitley, published 1956, p. 2.

9. Sumner County, Tennessee Will Abstracts, by Whitley.

10. Bench & Bar of Tennessee, by Joshua W. Caldwell, published 1898, p.62.

11. Davidson County, Tennessee Will Book No.47. Unpublished.

12. Historic Sumner County, Tennessee, by J. G. Cisco. Published 1909; Goodspeed's History of Tennessee, Sumner County, published 1886, pp.121-123-137. Ramsey's Annals of Tennessee.

13. Sumner County, Tennessee Will Book I; Sumner County, Tennessee Will Abstracts, by Edythe Whitley, published 1956, p.1.

14. Historical Southern Families, by Boddie, Vol. 4. Published 1960.

15. Authority, Kemp Cook Clendenning of Greensboro, North Carolina, who holds membership in the Society of Cincinnati, on Lieutenant John Clendenning's service.

16. Sumner County, Tennessee Marriage Bonds. Unpublished.

17. Sumner County, Tennessee Marriage Bonds. Unpublished.

18. Crozier's Spottsylvania County, Virginia Records, p.109 Deed Book "A" 1722-1729.

19. Haywood's Civil & Political History of Tennessee; Ramsey's Annals of Tennessee; Marshall & Collins History of Kentucky.

20. History of Southwest Virginia 1746-1786, by L. P. Summers.

21. NSDAR NO. 7073; 67172 and others.

22. Sumner County, Tennessee Will Abstracts, by E. Whitley, p. 1 W.B. I.

23. Sumner County, Tennessee Records.

24. Historic Sumner County, Tennessee, by J. G. Cisco, p. 98.

25. Historic Sumner County, Tennessee, by Cisco, p.165.

26. NSDAR files, Washington, D.C. No's: 7073; 7716; and 67172; also Historic Sumner County, Tennessee, by Cisco.

27. Goodspeed's History of Tennessee, Montgomery County, published 1886; Historic Sumner County, Tennessee by Cisco.

28. NSDAR No.7073 and No. 7716.

29. Sumner County, Tennessee Marriage Book I, unpublished, transcripts in Whitley Genealogical Collection, Nashville, Tennessee.

30. Sumner County, Tennessee Marriage Book I, unpublished, transcript in Whitley Genealogical Collection.

31. Sumner County, Tennessee Will Abstracts (W. B. I, p.19) Published 1956 by Edythe Whitley.

32. Sumner County, Tennessee Will Abstracts (W. B. I, p.26) published 1956 by Edythe Whitley.

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KEY TO THE MAP

1. Deacon's Pond
2. Prince's Station
3. Nevill's Station
4. Sevier's Station
5. Renfroe's Station
6. Indian Massacre
7. Dyer's Island
8. Kilgore's Station
9. Crockett's Station
10. Miles' Station
11. Hall's Station
12. Greenfield Station
13. Morgan's Station
14. BLEDSOE'S STATION (BLEDSOE'S LICK)
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19. Demumbreum Store, 1760 Charleville's Store,1714
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26. Fort Blount
27. Gasper's Station
28. Stump's Station
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35. Johnson's Station
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40. Cockrill's Station
41. Robertson's Station
42. Denton's Station
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48. Adams Station
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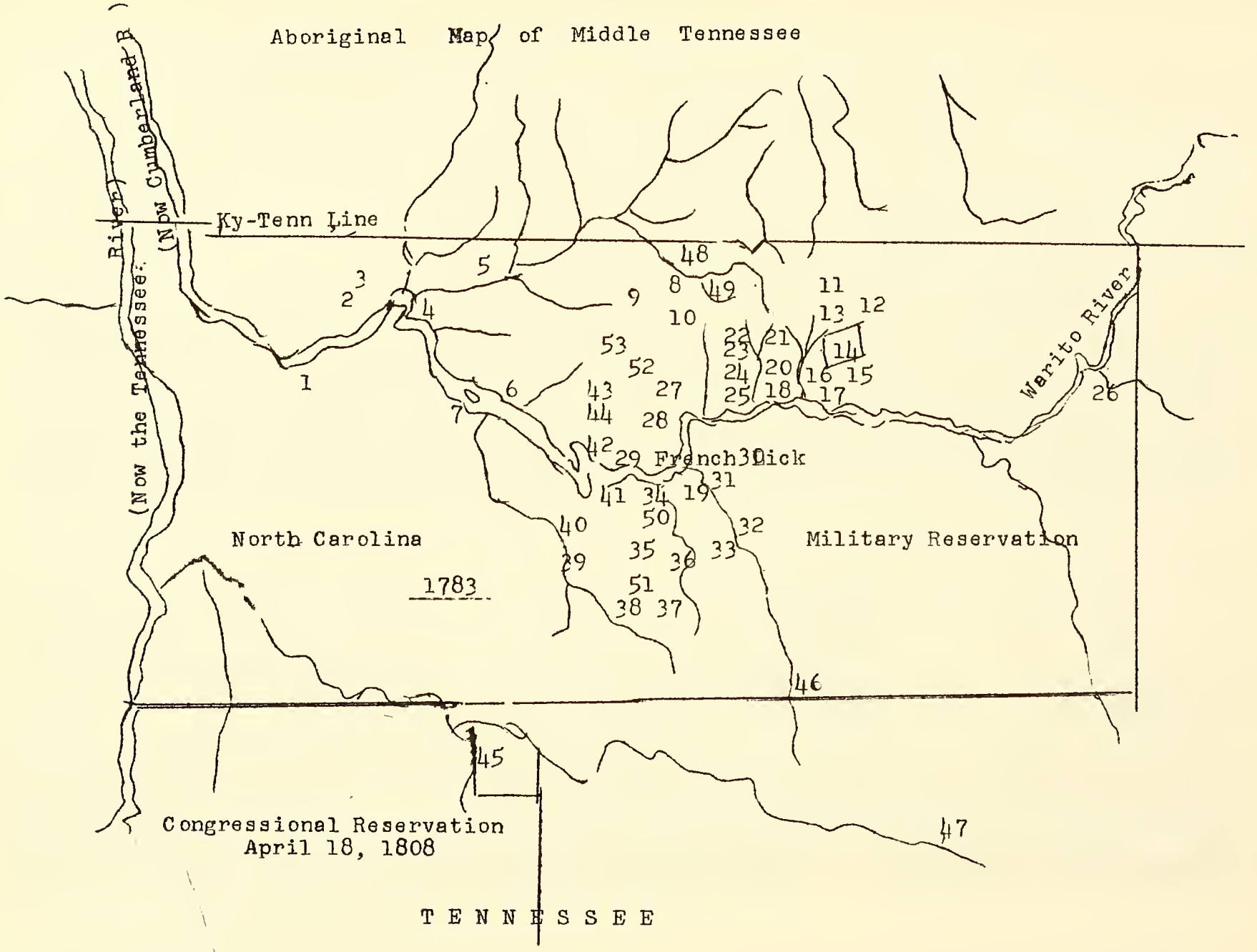
50. Rain's Station
51. Brown's Station
52. Joslin's Station
53. Stump's Station


Aboriginal Map of Middle Tennessee
(Now the Tennessee River)
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